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ARMY COMMUNIQUE LISTS ASSIGNMENT CHANGES

PY270400 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0052 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Jul (NA) -- The army commander in chief released the list of changes of assignments of high-ranking army officers tonight and stressed that those changes "are aimed at normalizing army command positions, as was already reported to army officers on 13 July 1982."

The official communique explains: "Therefore, they (the personnel transfers) do not involve any judgment of the performance of the personnel being transferred, because such a judgement will be based on the investigation being carried out by the evaluation commission designated for this purpose."

Following is the text of the army communique:

Public opinion is hereby informed that in keeping with a resolution by the army commander in chief, the following change of assignments of high-ranking army officers has been decided:

1. Appointments: Brig Gen Braulio Argentino Sanchez Avalos and Col Hugo Ferrari, 3d Infantry Brigade commander, and deputy commander and chief of staff respectively.

Brig Gen Teofilo Saa, 9th Infantry Brigade commander.

Brig Gen Alberto Ramon Schollaert and Col Justo Jacobo Rojas Alcorta, commander and deputy commander and chief of staff, respectively, of the 10th Armored Infantry Brigade, "the Gral Nicolas Lavalle."

Col Antonio Jose Deimundo Pineiro, director of the infantry school "the Gral Pedro Eugenio Aramburu."

Lt Col Hector Mario Giralda and Maj Jose Arturo Echeverria, chief and deputy chief, respectively, of the 3d Armored Infantry Regiment "Gral Belgrano."

Lt Col Jorge Eusebio Rearte and Maj Rodolfo Esteban Mazzino, respectively chief and deputy chief of the 4th Infantry Regiment.

Col Alberto Gonzalez and Maj Martin Enrique Toro, respectively chief and deputy chief of the 5th Infantry Regiment.

Lt Col Ramon Juan Michur and Maj Carlos Alejandro Ochoa, chief and deputy chief, respectively, of the 6th Armored Infantry Regiment "Gral Viamonte."

Lt Col Carlos Salvador Ruffino and Maj Armando Nobel Valiente, chief and deputy chief, respectively, of the 7th Armored Infantry Regiment "Cnl Conde."

Lt Col Ruben Arturo Ortega and Maj Jorge Magnelli, chief and deputy chief, respectively, of the 12th Infantry Regiment "Gral Arenales."

Maj Edgard Osvaldo Amieva, chief of the 10th Armored Cavalry Scout Squadron "Cnl Isidro Suarez."

Lt Col Julio Septimio Horacio Teglia, chief of the 101st Artillery Antiaircraft Defense Group "the Gral Pablo Ricchieri."

Maj Carlos Florencio Feroglio, chief of the 10th Armored Engineering Company.

Maj Herberto Antonio Robinson, chief of the 10th Armored Communications Company.

Lt Col Virgilio Aaron Nunes Almeida, chief of the 10th Logistics Battalion.

Maj Carlos Alberto Ceretti, chief of the 3d Communications Company.

The officers who are being hereby replaced will be given their new assignments in the next few days.

2. The following high-ranking officers are hereby put under the orders of the army commander in chief: Brig Gen Mario Benjamin Menendez, Brig Gen Oscar Luis Jofre, Brig Gen Omar Edgardo Parada, Brig Gen Americo Daher, Col Felix Roberto Aguiar and Col Horacio Osvaldo Chimeno.

Finally, it is made perfectly clear that the appointments ordered by the commander in chief are aimed at normalizing the army command positions, as was already reported to army officers on 13 July 1982 and that, therefore, they do not involve any judgment of the performance of the personnel being transferred, because such judgment will be based on the studies currently made by the evaluation commission designated for this purpose.

[Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish at 0110 GMT on 27 July in its report on changes in Argentine Army assignments contains the following appointment not included in the above NOTICIAS item. It reports: "Lt Col Roberto Obdulio Godoy and Maj Alfredo Jose Noberasco, respectively, chief and deputy chief of the 3d Artillery Group."]

Nicolaides Comments

PY270422 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0157 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Jul (DYN) -- Lt Gen Cristino Nicolaides said tonight that the transfers of the generals who served in the Malvinas war "to the disposal of the commander in chief," "are internal changes to lessen restlessness" and "preserve the organization and discipline" of the army.

During an informal meeting with newsmen accredited to his headquarters, General Nicolaides said that his decision "will probably lead to a greater peace of mind within the army" and rejected the idea that the army is in a "state of deliberation."

"There is some restlessness, a wish to learn what happened in the Malvinas," he admitted. In this connection he said that the report of the Calvi commission will very probably become known before the established 60 days. "Calvi asked me for about 60 days to work, but I see that he is very far advanced in receiving information and we will probably know the result before the end of that term," the army commander disclosed.

At another point in the talk he said: "There was nothing else I could do but bring about a prompt reorganization of the army. I could not leave it the way it came back (from the Malvinas)."

When a newsman asked him why the officers who have now been removed did not return to the posts they held before the South Atlantic campaign, Nicolaides replied: "Because those people come with a particular frame of mind, with rumors and commentaries....For that reason I immediately ordered a general 20-day leave, which would indeed be quite an order in the army during normal times. I had to throw on a bucket of cold water to cool the atmosphere I inherited when receiving the command."

He then said: "I could not delay the reorganization much. I announced it on 13 July and said that it would take me 2 weeks. As you see, I am even a little ahead of time. I want to have all the empty posts filled and to respect the seniority and rank of the higher echelons in every appointment. This is the first of the changes I am going to make from now until the end of the year in order to have an army with full operational capacity."

Regarding the possible repercussions that the changes might have abroad, Nicolaides believed that "no one can be surprised." He added: "All the armies of the world make a reevaluation of the quality and ability of their men after a defeat. That is precisely what we are doing."

Regarding the subject of the vice presidency, Nicolaides said that it is still being studied at the level of the secretary generals of each force and that the final evaluation of the commanders in chief can only be made after the three secretaries have finished. He commented: "The most delicate part of the matter is that the duties of the vice president might overlap those of the interior minister. A vice president should be put there to facilitate the task of the government, not to hinder it."

Regarding the probable trial or investigation of the administration of former Economy Minister Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz, Nicolaides said "I have no specific idea about how it could be undertaken" and that such an action "would be full of implications, because all of us supported Martinez de Hoz at some time during the process."

When a newsman asked him if his plans to professionalize the army are advancing, Nicolaides emphatically replied that they are and that this is a continuing task he has set for himself. He remarked: "I want an army with a size relative to the capabilities of the country, because it is not a matter of having an immense army for a shrunken country, and I want an army that is fully under the orders of the political power."

In the end he was asked who should be made responsible for the defeat in the Malvinas: the combatants or the generals who drew up the strategy. General Nicolaides made a noncommittal gesture and replied: "It is very hard to tell. Success in battle depends on a sound balance between a good assessment and a good operation. If any of the two is wrong, the other is of no use. In this case we will still have to see what went wrong. That will be learned in a short time."

PRESIDENT BIGNONE'S SELA COMMITTEE ADDRESS

PY261615 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1410 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Jul (TELAM) -- President Gen Reynaldo Bignone stated here that Latin America has adopted the Malvinas cause as its own and that Argentina will at all times defend its inalienable rights to these islands.

On inaugurating the meeting of the SELA committee of support and action for Argentina, Bignone stated that we will never stop our efforts until the islands which belong to us are recovered and we effectively exercise our sovereignty over them.

In another passage of his speech, the president affirmed that Argentina is resolutely moving down the path toward the full recovery of its democratic institutions.

During the ceremony held at the General San Martin Cultural Center, the nation's president made the following speech:

"Messrs Delegates: Buenos Aires welcomes you today in a cordial and open manner in which it has always received Latin American brothers on Argentine soil.

"Latin America has adopted the Malvinas cause as its own and, even at the moment of adversity, the fraternal peoples reaffirmed their recognition of the Argentine people's sovereign right over a part of their territory which is still subject to an illegitimate colonial situation.

"In all forums and circumstances we will defend our inalienable rights over the islands with strong arguments based on law, reason, history and even geography; and also based on the recognition of our right by those who, beyond what could be expected, have come forward to give us their generous helping hand in the forum of understanding and support for the justice of our cause. We Argentines will not cease our efforts until the islands which belong to us are recovered for the effective exercise of our sovereignty over there.

"The Argentine people will never forget Latin America's gesture of solidarity. We will continue to identify ourselves with the great causes of Latin America, because they are our causes as well.

"We obtained our independence together, with banners of freedom and equality in international relations. Through 200 years we have shared the greatest ideals of the forefathers of our fatherlands and our very short histories have always found us ready to reject any type of colonial domination, any type of discredit to the territorial independence and integrity of nations and any attempt at perpetuating types of relations between nations that are based on injustice and force.

"We have always rejected economic coercion as a means of achieving political results in international relations. Such means can only be accepted when they are the result of an action made legitimate by international legal norms, when they express punishment of an international, universal or regional community, based of the law, against whoever has previously carried out actions termed contrary to the interests of the group of nations.

"To accept that a country or a group of countries assume the authority to punish another country, violating pre-established norms and procedures, is to open the path to arbitrariness, especially to stronger countries, and it means undermining the bases of an international order that is based on law and the legal equality of nations.

"The measures of economic coercion that are adopted in that way are, without doubt, an unacceptable type of aggression and as such they imply a serious backward step in international economic relations.

"It has been made quite clear that Latin America does not tolerate this type of international behavior, but, what is even more important is that it has also been made quite clear that the region has understood the concept of solidarity in a concrete and practical way under the present circumstances. With the creation of the committee of support and action for Argentina, it has been demonstrated that the region has the instruments to face economic emergency situations and the political will to use them. The positive precedent of joint regional action has been set with the negative side of economic coercion in support of the affected country.

"Messrs Delegates: Our country is living through hard and peculiar times. In its struggle to defend its territorial integrity, Argentina had on its side those who once more proved to be its real friends. This experience has taught us a lesson. Our idea of the region as an inseparable corollary of the idea of a nation has been strengthened by this experience. In the region and in our identity as Latin Americas, we will find the appropriate environment for our self-realization as independent and sovereign nations. In the region we have the economic potential to bring out our immense human and material wealth.

"We do not think of our need to associate with the region as a priority or as a contradiction to our ties with the rest of the world. On the contrary, the unavoidable task of developing our relations of cooperation and integration in politically and economically preferential terms is ultimately the most appropriate channel to strenously and energetically devote our efforts to consolidate our own development, as well as to participate in the great international decisions and in our economic dealings with all nations, whether developed or developing ones.

"The crisis has permitted us to understand the true value and the political importance that Latin American unity has for us, and it has also revealed that concrete advances toward the objective of regional cooperation and integration can be made by exercizing political will.

"Mutually supporting ourselves in emergency situations is a contribution to cementing this aspiration for unity. To the best of our ability, our country has also given assistance to brotherly countries which were affected by natural disasters or distressing economic times. We are willing to contribute to any initiative intended to better organize collective assistance in the various economic emergencies which experience shows may affect us.

"We believe that no new incident will be able to undermine the impulse we have given to our united action. Let the scope of this committee of action, which is of a transitory nature, be one in which we can learn from past experiences, and through which we can really step up economic cooperation in those areas that the latest crisis has proved to be the ones in which progress is most likely to be made.

"Let us use the multilateral economic forums of the region, such as the SELA or LAIA, as institutional forums in which the concrete integration efforts made by our countries will be increased and have fruitful results.

"Let us turn them into real sounding boxes, in which our legitimate aspirations of making our people progress in peace and in freedom will be realized, and where international economic relations will be implemented on the basis of justice and equality.

"We are aware that we will manage to accomplish the welfare goals we desire for our nations only through our own efforts. It would be impossible to deny this.

"But the actions carried out by the regional economic organs, if well understood, can contribute in a significant fashion to our national actions or to those carried out bilaterally. Argentina supports all those organs to which it is a member, and it expects in return concrete contributions which will be adjusted to the requirements and to the needs of all their member countries.

"International organs exist provided they interpret the will of their member countries and that they accomplish the objectives for which they were created. Otherwise these organs lose they vitality and they rapidly become outdated.

"The difficult circumstances that we all face in our international economic relations today, more than ever, require that we close ranks to defend our legitimate interests in the economic forums of the world. To merge our positions in those forums is a priority action for the SELA, because we will thus be able to increase the efficiency of our participation in the great debates that the immediate future will present us with regarding the evolution of North-South relations and cooperation between developing countries.

"Let us submit our ideas and viewpoints energetically, let us propose our solutions because they will be appreciated by a world that we desire and they should be channelled even more intensely to achieve a more just international order.

"The Malvinas in their current situation are a symbol, not the only one, of a state of things that does not fit into the legitimate aspirations of humanity's progress. Colonialism is an anachronism. Its continued use is an afront to the principles that we, here in America, have always defended. It is the denial of our identity as a region.

"Messrs Delegates: Argentina, which is firmly moving toward the full recovery of its democratic institutions, expresses to you, through myself, its heartfelt thanks for the support you have given it and its desire that together we continue building the Latin America that our liberators dreamed of with an inspired foresight.

"I declare the first meeting of the committee of support and action for Argentina, within the SELA framework, inaugurated."

MOSQUERA REAFFIRMS VILDOSO APPOINTMENT

PY261427 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Air Force Commander Gen Natalio Morales Mosquera has said that the appointment of Gen Guido Vildoso Calderon as president of the nation is the best solution to the country's problems and that the decision was adopted by the armed forces.

Talking to Panamericana, General Mosquera confirmed that Col Victor Ramirez Lopez, commander of Air Group 52 based in Trinidad, Beni, has been summoned to the La Paz General Command to testify on statements he made to the press about his opposition to the appointment of Gen Guido Vildoso Calderon as president of the country.

[Begin Mosquera recording] Obviously Col Victor Ramirez has made statements of a political nature and so he has been summoned to the Air Force General Command to give some explanations as to why he made these statements. [end recording]

Mosquera, member of the Junta of Commanders, then stressed that the appointment of General Vildoso is the best step the armed forces could have taken.

[Begin Mosquera recording] I believe that the armed forces clearly stated that after General Torrelio's resignation someone had to be elected. So when the mandate was given to General Vildoso, the armed forces made clear their position. We stated that position very clearly. I also believe that Pammo also made this statement last Friday and the president reiterated that position yesterday morning. This is the situation as far as the armed forces is concerned: that the best step has been taken. [end recording]

General Mosquera then added that the decision to appoint General Vildoso was adopted after a thorough study by the military commanders.

[Begin Mosquera recording] For the time being the armed forces stands by this mandate as the best solution. It was adopted after a thorough study by the Joint Staff. [end recording]

PRESIDENT VILDOSO REAFFIRMS RETURN TO DEMOCRACY

PY262010 La Paz Radio Illimani in Spanish 1700 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] President of the Republic Gen Guido Vildoso Calderon reaffirmed today that the armed forces, after a thorough analysis of the country's political situation, have concluded that the best way to reinstate the democratic system in Bolivia is through elections. Therefore he said that his presence in the government only represents compliance with the mandate of the military institution for him to make possible the institutionalization of the branches of government in accordance with an armed forces decision.

The chief of state talked to the press after installing the comptroller general of the republic in a ceremony held in the Hall of Mirrors. Asked about the request made by the MNRI [National Revolutionary Movement of the Left] to hold elections in October or November, President Vildoso said that this period is too short and thus it is impossible to call elections that soon.

In his first contact with journalists, Vildoso also indicated that the cabinet council will meet next Wednesday to hear reports related to the economic situation and the political process. He said that the organs created to deal with such questions are at work, such as the National Stabilization Council and the National Political Council [CONAPOL], which are studying possible solutions in their respective areas.

President Vildoso also said that the latest attacks in La Paz using dynamite sticks are being investigated to apprehend the culprits and to discover the motives.

PAPER ON INFLATION IMPROVEMENT BEFORE ELECTIONS

PY261325 Rio de Janeiro LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST in English 25/26 Jul 82 p 5

[By Herbert Zschech]

[Text] Rio de Janeiro -- Rumors have been rife in Brasilia and elsewhere during the last two weeks on eventual changes in the government, replacement of ministers and other high-ranking officials in the economic policy sectors of the federal administration. President Figueiredo in a press interview in Canada expressly denied however what has been the principal of these rumors -- dismissal of Delfim Netto, the main responsible for the combat of inflation which has not been successful of late, especially in June when the rate of inflation rose to a disquieting 8 percent. Figueiredo implicitly gave to understand that any other minister to be named in the place of Delfim could not act differently in the current circumstances. The president recalled that Delfim himself was named minister of planning in the place of Mario Simonsen because business leaders and politicians "claimed Simonsen's head," but the antiinflationary course of policy remained the same, mainly because there are no visible alternatives.

As Figueiredo correctly said, there do not exist sweet remedies against inflation. Nor do there exist secret or magical tricks in this field. So Delfim Netto in all likelihood will stay on. The same is not so sure with regard to some other ministers. Delfim's aides in off-the-record talks with newsmen often stress that Delfim's policy against inflation would have brought better results if his powers were large enough to enforce it on other government sectors and against government-owned business firms whose ever growing deficits are a major cause of inflation. Managers of government firms on the other hand often say that their deficits and non-observance of budget limits are a result rather than a cause of inflation. Delfim has systematically extended his control to sectors previously subordinate to other ministries, as lately happened with the national development bank and a few days ago with the sugar stabilization fund, so far within the jurisdiction of other ministers.

Delfim's principal problem, however, is politics. The questions of whether inflation will cause the defeat of the government's PDS in the No. 15 elections is now a daily subject of discussions also within the PDS. The official party's Chairman Jose Sarney bluntly denied this risk. According to his opinion, inflation will not seriously influence the election results. Already the party's secretary general, Dep. Prisco Viana, thinks differently. But within the government, the issue apparently is viewed as a dilemma between combat of inflation and combat of social tension. It is generally admitted -- certainly by Delfim Netto but also by other government members that the newly created finsocial tax (fundo social), clamping a .5 percent tax on the entire billing of all enterprises with its evidently snowballing impact from the industry over wholesales and distributors to the retail trade is inflationary. Its supporters in the government believe that the inflationary impact will be outweighed soon by its social benefits. Calculations estimate at 300 billion cruzeiros alone in the current year the revenue from this tax which is to be used for social improvements and other projects benefiting the poor. Alone at least 30 billion cruzeiros are to be employed for selling cheaper food to the lower income groups.

Many economists consider this reasoning erroneous, not to say ridiculous. As they see it, poverty in this country is such, that sums like 30 billion cruzeiros will not prove more efficacious than a few pails of water against a big fire. Moreover, how to channel the benefit of lower prices for essential food to those who most need it? Doing this equitably would require controls and organizational measures which might absorb the money through the costs of administration.

Then there is now a new problem linked to the finsocial tax. It might be illegal and annulable by the courts.

Alone in Rio, several hundred lawsuits have been started against the government by businessmen seeking to annul the tax. In fact, the Constitution outlaws all tax increases and new taxes made effective in the same year in which they were created, as was done with the finsocial tax. The government was aware of the problem and tried to circumvent it by not calling it a tax but a contribution. From a legal viewpoint, this seems to be a dubious expedient. Also it is claimed that the finsocial is a clear case of double taxation, taxing transactions already subject to other taxes, this too is not constitutional.

Delfim Netto's aides in informal conversations also admit that the wage legislation is outspokenly inflationary. It would have been changed already, were it not for fear of electoral consequences. The crucial point of the problem is the half-yearly wage readjustments in general, often with a generous estimate by labor courts of the so-called increase of productivity entitling the workers to higher pay for producing more, while this is a largely subjective criterion. There do not exist reliable rules for calculation of production increases attributable to higher efficiency of the workers. Even more inflationary, according to many economists, is the grant of pay raises above the inflationary indices to earners of low wages up to three minimum wages. This is tantamount to a gradual, but now rather quick, transfer of purchasing power from the middle class to the poor. But in recent decades, Brazil's industrial production was largely supplying consumer goods for the middle classes. The wage legislation deprives the middle classes of part of their purchasing power, which however does not really stimulate purchases of consumer goods by the low earners, not only because the effect is diluted but also because employers are more and more tempted to lay off workers in the lower pay groups in order to hire new ones who start from the lowest levels of the wage scale.

One of the most dangerous results is unemployment. A Ministry of Planning source was quoted saying last week that unemployment must be feared to increase substantially, despite official optimism predicting a decline. Unemployment certainly would be a major cause of social tension and consequent hostility toward the government and its party. On the other hand, modifying the wage legislation prior to the elections seems unthinkable. In all likelihood, with or without Delfim Netto, the inflationary situation will improve substantially -- if at all -- before the elections, and the question remains unanswered if and how much this will affect the official party's electoral chances.

ENERGY PROJECTS TO BE CUT BY 10 PERCENT

PY270150 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Excerpts] In a ceremony presided over by Minister Cesar Cals, the Mines and Energy Ministry today commemorated its 22d anniversary.

After the ceremony, Minister Cals held a 2-hour meeting with Dario Gomes, chief of staff of the ministry; Costa Cavalcanti, president of the Brazilian Electric Power Companies, Inc.; and Geraldo Siqueira and (Okota Masato), directors of the Itaipu binational enterprise.

At the meeting it was decided that the pace of electrical projects will be slowed down to reduce the approved budget of 437 billion cruzeiros by 10 percent by the end of this year. This measure is designed to adjust the implementation of these projects to the country's economic reality.

The timetable of the Itaipu hydroelectric project will not be affected because it is a binational project, but the timetable of other similar projects undertaken by the ministry could be affected.

In a note, the Mines and Energy Ministry mass media department states that the 10 percent cut in the ministry projects will not affect the Brazilian nuclear program.

FOREIGN MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON CURRENT ISSUES

PA262302 Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 22 Jul 82 p 11-A

[Maria Jimena Duzan interview with Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Many events have occurred since you took over the Foreign Ministry in March 1981. Relations were broken with Cuba, the country entered the Nassau group, the Caribbean summit was held and, in short, one gets the impression that Colombia somewhat abandoned its interest in an opening toward the Andean group in favor of such a policy toward the Caribbean at the same time that President Reagan was presenting his economic aid plan for the Caribbean basin...

[Answer] Regarding the opening toward the Caribbean, I would say that the objective was not of being a U.S. gendarme or of being a stabilizing factor favoring United States in a region that is crucial due to the current situation of the countries there. The opening toward the Caribbean was simply the result of an internal Colombian situation: the development of the Atlantic coast. The country rediscovered the Atlantic coast some time ago. This action, which led us to turn from the Andean region, could only result in Colombia looking beyond its own Atlantic coast to a region to which it belongs.

[Question] But aren't there political motives behind the trade interests and the points in common between Colombia and the Caribbean?

[Answer] Of course there are political motives, but not of obtaining leadership of a sphere of influence and much less of hegemony. As a democratic and de jure state, Colombia wants to serve as a model and to show the Caribbean nations, particularly the young ones, that a country can develop its resources within democracy, as is the Colombian case, in the Caribbean region. Above all, it wants to show them that a totalitarian system of government, whether of the right or left, does not have to be established, as many think it does, in order to create conditions for acceptable development.

[Question] Despite what you have said, there are some in the country who argue that not even with this opening toward the Caribbean has Colombia been able to undertake a foreign policy independent of the United States, and that it has been unable to benefit from its role as a submissive "partner" of the United States as some other countries of the continent have...

[Answer] I would tell you one thing: Much is said these days about being "in" and "out." [in English] I am "out." I do not think it is a disgrace to be a friend of the United States. That foolishness, which I once shared, is, among other things, out of fashion. That is a bit of nonsense that we have been sold and we, who buy a number of bad things, including the U.S. chewing gun -- such a horrible custom as that -- have bought it. It is "in;" it is fashionable; it is intelligent; it is progressive to be an enemy and adversary of the United States. That is why I am "out." I think it is natural to be a friend of the United States and that if on some occasions they have treated us with the big stick, that does not mean that we have to behave as adversaries of a nation that is institutionally closer to us than the Soviet Union. It is an enviable democracy in which newsmen cause the fall of governments and in which public opinion is expressed with freedom. It is great to imitate that. To imitate the other instead: the press censorship, the Gulag, the repression and the fact that there is no book store in which to buy whatever book ones want -- which we consider a vital institution -- is not very good.

[Question] However, let us say there are some views shared with the United States... There is agreement in the U.S. and Colombian policies of opening toward the Caribbean, in their fierce struggle against Cuba...

[Answer] While I have been minister no foreign policy has been established under the dictates of any country. We did not consult the United States about our break with Cuba. It occurred not because the United States asked us to do it but because of Cuban intervention in our domestic affairs. We have not asked for U.S. permission to resolve our pending border issues with other countries. We acted in the Malvinas conflict without consultations as to whether or not the United States was in agreement. We have carried out an independent policy. That this policy sometimes coincides with that of the United States is another thing. However, our policy has coincided on many things with socialist countries and Third World countries. I will give you an example in which I had to make a personal decision while in New York: Colombia voted for a resolution regarding the very serious Lebanese situation during the assembly held for such a purpose, moving away from Israel and the United States. There is no such policy of 100 percent agreement with the United States.

[Question] There are some who say that in our foreign policy, we should make more widely known our position in face of actions such as the intervention or aid that certain countries, such as the United States, are giving to the counterrevolution in Nicaragua, actions which have been revealed by the U.S. news media, or even more so, in face of actions that directly concern us such as the Venezuelan purchase of F-16s...

[Answer] Regarding the guerrillas in Nicaragua, we do not have any proof to enable us to state that they are being financed and advised by the United States. What we have done is not to give support to those antiguerrillas as other governments have done, to guerrillas that are fighting against the established regime because we think that would violate the principle of nonintervention. The problem of the guerrillas that Nicaragua and El Salvador confront, as the one we confront, is one of international order issue until the interference of another country is proven. Colombia showed that Cuba had armed the Colombian guerrillas and it broke relations for that reason.

[Question] And regarding F-16s of Venezuela?

[Answer] Regarding the sale of airplanes, we have acted as much as we could to express our surprise over the danger in which the big powers are placing all these countries. When I delivered my speech at the UN disarmament conference I somewhat strayed from the subject and referred not to the nuclear weapons but to the wars that do kill: the conventional wars. I reproached the United States, Great Britain, France and the Soviet Union for their irresponsible conduct of having turned the sale of weapons into a profitable business, giving weapons to countries that do not know how to use them.

FOUR M-19 GUERRILLAS CAPTURED WITH ARMS, FOOD

PA240257 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Text] Florencia, Colombia -- Four guerrillas from the self-styled 19 April Movement (M-19) were captured by the police today as they were driving through Florencia. The insurgents, identified as (Wli Cardona Ramirez), (Julio Torres), (Jose Joaquin Cortez Guerrero), and (Julio Alterto Poveda), were apparently headed for Rio Negro in a camper. In their possession, the police found weapons of different calibers, ammunition, food and an assortment of medicines, apparently destined for the guerrilla hideouts in the mountain areas. The four guerrillas were turned over to the [name indistinct] Battalion for the customary questioning.

MEXICO CITY ELECTION 'IRREGULARITIES' CHARGED

PA232335 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 23 Jul 82

[Text] The Federal Electoral Commission has declared (Socorro Diaz) and (Javier Ahumada Padilla) senators-elect for Colima State. Both were nominated by the Institutional Revolutionary Party [PRI]. Meanwhile, the United Socialist Party of Mexico [PSUM] and the Workers Revolutionary Party [PRT] called for a march in Mexico City this afternoon to protest alleged irregularities during the election process as well as in the counting of the votes.

(Ramon Soza Montez), representative of the PSUM to the Mexico City Electoral Commission, asked for the annulment of the Federal District Senate election, alleging irregularities. (?He asked) that the election of PRI Senators (Hugo de Margain) and (Abrahan Martinez Guedro) be declared void. The request for the annulment of the Federal District Senate elections was supported by the National Action Party, the Mexican Democratic Party and the PRT.

PAN Seeks No Deals

FL261452 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2035 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Jul (NOTIMEX) -- "The National Action Party (PAN) is not asking for more votes or claiming a victory it has not won, nor is it attempting blackmail; it is only vigorously denouncing what it believes to be an electoral fraud," a PAN spokesman has said.

Official PAN spokesman Gonzalo Altamirano Dimas gave assurances that his party will not accept or seek deals or negotiate with the PRI. He said the PRI was only demanding respect for the people's will from the PRI and election officials. He said [words indistinct] claiming more than 100 and challenging 30 of the 40 in the Federal District. He explained that the PAN "never said it would sweep the Federal District, but it had made considerable strides in relation to the PRI."

He warned that his party would go to the Federal Electoral Commission and denounce violations in several districts and, if necessary, it would go to the Supreme Count of Justice to claim the victories it obtained through the people's votes. "We are convinced that the majority of Mexicans voted for the PAN," he declared.

Altamirano Dimas denied that the PAN is a shill for the PRI or that it has links to foreign interests to destabilize the country economically, politically and socially. "We do not make use of peasants and workers or blackmail the government to obtain political posts because we do not seek to make deals or try to negotiate with the people's will," he reiterated. He added that the PAN will mobilize citizens so that they may actually get the benefits promised by the PRI candidates to the presidency, Senate and Chamber of Deputies.

SIGNIFICANCE OF DE LA MADRID OMMISSIONS ANALYZED

FL232118 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1910 GMT 23 Jul 82

[By Tomas Gerardo Allaz, of NOTIMEX editorial services]

[Excerpt] Like many both here and abroad, we were surprised at Miguel de la Madrid's delay in stating his future foreign policy clearly. His long exposition of 8 June to the international affairs committee of the PRI's National Executive Committee seemed more the work of aides than his own. But his personal stamp and his diplomatic acuity were evident in more recent statements.

On 29 June for foreign correspondents in Mexico, on 5 July in the interview with the correspondent of the Yugoslav paper POLITIKA and on 2 July to the international affairs committee of the PRI's National Executive Committee, De la Madrid responded fully to expectations and did away with all abiguities.

Without pseudodiplomatic beating around the bush, he expressed his determination to "maintain permanent, rational and oportune support for the nationalist movements that fight for their freedon, democracy and social justice." This of course has special significance given the proximity of the Guatemalan people, attacked and tortured with U.S. and Israeli intervention. He said: "There are no rectifications and there cannot be any rectifications in the revolutionary and liberal tradition of our foreign policy, particularly in the progressive positions that Mexico has upheld in recent times."

Nevertheless, speeches are words. Sometimes they are only words. On the other hand, there are silences and voluntary omissions that are tantamount to facts and are worth full-fledged commitments. De la Madrid provides two examples.

A cliche in official oratory throughout the world is the reference to the East-West confrontation in connection with any local conflict. Therefore, it would not have sounded surprising coming from the president-elect's lips. On the other hand, the absence of this reference is significant, especially when he stresses the true cause of tensions. "The radical origin, the roots of the problem... lie in economic and social underdevelopment.... In my opinion it is the fundamental cause of the political instability that has characterized the area." There is no mention of the Russian or Cuban bogeyman. One other silence, another valuable and brave omission, was noteworthy. The subject was Guatemala. International protocol suggested mention if contacts between the two neighboring governments, although such a mention might appear a betrayal in the eyes of the Indians massacred near our own borders.

But indeed De la Madrid shows that above all protocol demands, he can see reality, especially such a painful one. He repeatedly extends his hand to the Guatemalan "people" -- not their executioners. "For me, relations with Guatemala should deserve high priority in our foreign policy in keeping with our own principles. We must respect the sovereignty of the Guatemalan people in selecting the government that best suits them. We must abstain from any intervention in the domestic affairs of Guatemala."

De la Madrid does not pretend that he forgets that the current government is not of the people's choosing, that it is the result of a military coup perpetrated to blot out the worldwide scandal caused by an electoral farce even more shameless than any other this continent is accustomed to seeing. That is why, instead of gesture toward the current dictator, he adds: "We shall seek the best relations with the Guatemalan people."

SAN JOSE ACCORD RATIFIED, NO CHANGE IN OIL QUOTA

FL261249 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0344 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 25 Jul (NOTIMEX) -- Deputy Foreign Secretary Jorge Navarrete has reported that the San Jose agreement was ratified and therefore Central American and Caribbean countries will continue to receive 160,000 barrels of oil each year. Interviewed at the Mexico City airport, Navarrete said he had participated in a meeting in Venezuela where once more Venezuela and Mexico ratified their cooperation in helping the area's development by supplying oil to countries that need it.

The Mexican official said it had been decided to keep the quota of 160,000 barrels established in the agreement because of the world recession and the drop in consumption. He also said oil prospects on the international market were discouraging because no change is expected in oil prices and the free market has brought prices down even more.

COSTA RICA

TRADE, OIL DEBT AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH MEXICO

PA241453 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 23 Jul 82

[William Cespedes report from the Presidential Palace]

[Text] A few minutes ago the Mexican and Costa Rican Governments signed two agreements. The first is a trade agreement by which the Mexican Government will give preferential treatment, in terms of taxes and other duty-free restrictions, to products imported from Costa Rica. Approximately 50 nontraditional products will receive up to 75 percent exemption from duty when entering Mexican markets. Mexico has also changed its quota system to allow Costa Rica to export several traditional products to Mexico. This is considered an economic advantage for our country.

Mexican Secretary of Commerce Jorge de la Vega Dominguez signed this agreement for the United Mexican States, along with an agreement on our country's oil debt, which amounts to $88,438,951. This includes $78,438,951 for the oil and fuel supplied by Mexico and as well as $10 million that the Costa Rican oil refinery borrowed from Pemex for drilling and exploration in the Talamanca area. Secretary De la Vega made the following statement:

[Begin recording] Through the signing of these agreements and future ones destined to bolster our relations with Costa Rica, Mexico will strive to carry out the objectives of this program. We are now facing our own crisis. We have called it a financial crisis, an imbalance that we are trying to control, and there is no doubt that in coming months we will be successful in achieving good results. Mr President, the signing of this trade agreement will improve our exchange. We have a growing market for Costa Rican products, both raw materials and manufactured goods. The trade that flows both ways will certainly respond to the potential of our two countries, of our two markets. [end recording]

The Costa Rican Government has agreed to pay Mexico a total of $500,000 in capital and interest, calculated at the going London Interbank offering rate, plus 1 percent of the capital ($53,184,252) calculated on the date of issuance of the corresponding debt certificates, which are subject to review every 6 months. The Central Bank has agreed to accept 10 drafts for a total of $13,330,076 to cover, in 5 years, the debt agreed to by the Costa Rican Government for the supply of oil and fuel. Thus Costa Rica has regulated its credit situation with the Mexican Government and has opened opportunities for the export of nontraditional products to Mexican markets.

President Luis Alberto Monge has said that by this action the Mexican Government has again demonstrated friendship for Costa Rica and support for the democracy of this Central American nation.

EL SALVADOR

FMLN OFFICIAL SAYS WAR IN PHASE NEAR VICTORY

PA240248 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Excerpt] (Victor Medrano), FMLN representative in Mexico, has said that the war against the Salvadoran dictatorship has entered a phase near victory. He said that only U.S. intervention in the conflict has so far prevented the rebels' victory. (Medrano) said El Salvador has become a key piece in the U.S. plan to regionalize the conflict in all Central America. In this regard, he said the U.S. Government has pushed the Honduran Army to invade Salvadoran territory and to participate in battles against the FMLN. He added that at the same time it has increased its support for the Guatemalan tyranny in order to involve that country increasingly in Washington's plans in the region.

'No Peace Without FMLN'

PA231951 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 23 Jul 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] General Garcia told the army, journalists and the world that in May and June he would launch the final offensive against the guerrillas. Garcia meant he would win the war. We are at the end of July, and all our people are aware of what happened in May and June. So is the world. There was no such final offensive. There was no such total defeat of the guerrillas, as General Garcia predicted. What did occur was a battle on the Torola-San Fernando highway, at (Monterrey Hill), where three enemy companies were defeated and a large number of their members annihilated. It led to the largest quantity of weapons recovered and the largest number of casualties and prisoners taken from the army so far in this war.

What happened in May and June was the defeat of 6,000 enemy soldiers, including the much-vaunted Belloso Battalion, and the defeat of the Honduran Army's first attempt at intervention. What happened in May and June was a generalized reactivation of our forces. This reactivation is being maintained and will be increased.

This is July, and we are stronger than ever. This has been confirmed by many officers, including Lt Col Domingo Monterrosa, commander of the Atlacatl Battalion, who publicly admitted the army's failure in the most recent operations. It is impossible to defeat us, because we are a revolutionary army that has great fighting ability because we are everywhere, because we are the people.

Any solution to the conflict in our country will not lead to peace unless the FMLN-Revolutionary Democratic Front is included. Military solutions, such as the dispatching of more weapons and more airplanes and the massive use of napalm, military solutions such as barefaced intervention by other armies, as confirmed by General Garcua, may prolong and regionalize the war, but will never bring peace and progress to our fatherland. Any plan, like the electoral farce of 28 March, which was invalidated only a few months later, any plan in which we are not included will solve nothing in our country, because we are the people and without us there will be no peace.

GUATEMALA

RIOS MONTT LINKS U.S. AID TO HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY

PA262316 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Weekly speech by President Efrain Rios Montt in Guatemala City -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Broadcast in progress] ... to thank you sincerely for giving me a chance to be close to you at this moment. I think that as time wears on we should identify ourselves in order to define the tasks that you and I are doing. This will strengthen our nationality and give our families a sound and [word indistinct] place for them to grow.

Whenever a political plan is proposed, one must carefully specify a field and a human objective. One must blend the land and ethnic elements. Such a national policy has not existed here in Guatemala, and this was exactly the reason for the 22 March movement against corruption and injustice. A government, which was supposed to be the organization of a people, had turned its back on reality. As for foreign policy matters, there are no longer [word indistinct] isolation and much less instances of being outcasts. Being an outcast turns out to be deplorable. [Words indistinct] 4 months ago we were outcasts. We were experiencing and feeling this, regrettably.

However, God has heard us. Changes have taken place. There have been favorable changes. The attitude toward consolidation of human rights has become stronger and this is not being done as a matter of personal propaganda, but because you and I understand that [words indistinct] an attitude of life. So you have probably realized that last week the United States approved $11 million in assistance for Guatemala.

If we start thinking that, when measured against the huge problems we have the amount of $11 million virtually contributes nothing to solving them, of course we become worried and sad. However, when we stop to realize that a nation so respectful and zealous of human rights has unanimously voted to grant us an unbudgeted assistance of $11 million we feel great satisfaction. Why? Because we see this not as an amount but as the attitude of a nation, of a state, which has openly recognized that a change has taken place in Guatemala. A change has taken place. This attitude binds and moves us. [Words indistinct] we feel that this is a result of our joint efforts, of an effort against wrongdoing and injustice. We still have a long way to go. However, we must practice decency. We must practice honesty. We must live with truth and justice; we -- you, I and your entire family -- must change in order for Guatemala to be recognized as a worthy, prosperous and sound nation. Thank you very much.

OFFICIAL DENIES PLANS MADE TO INVADE BELIZE

PA240415 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0029 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Text] Guatemala City, 23 Jul (ACAN-EFE) — Edgar Serceno, deputy foreign minister, said today Guatemala will not invade Belize. This was in response to remarks made in Mexico City by Belizean Prime Minister George Price. According to international reports, Price said in Mexico City that Belize is facing a constant threat of invasion from Guatemala.

The Guatemalan deputy minister, who is acting foreign minister, pointed out that the danger of Guatemalan military aggression against Belize is not real. "In spite of the negative opinion of the Belizean prime minister, Guatemala will continue to search for a just solution through peaceful negotiations," he added. President Rios Montt remains determined to solve the dispute through international law, which discards the possibility of a military invasion of Belize, he added. He said Guatemala's foreign policy regarding "its territory of Belize" will continue along the lines of peaceful negotiations to find a peaceful solution for all three countries involved in the conflict (Guatemala, Belize and Great Britain).

RIOS MONTT ORDERS CREATION OF 'MINI-CABINETS'

PA240006 Guatemala City Teleonce Television in Spanish 0130 GMT 22 Jul 82

[Text] President Efrain Rios Montt today decided to create three mini-cabinets to seek solutions for immediate problems. Rios Montt feels that a small group of top officials can propose projects and solutions better and faster to reactivate the economy and face serious problems of security, education, health and work.

Rafael Escobar Arguello, deputy secretary of public relations at the Presidential Palace, said the mini-cabinets will be made up as follows: Finance Minister Leonardo Figueroa Villante, Economy Minister Julio Matheu Duchez and Agriculture Minister Leopoldo Sandoval will make up the minicabinet on economy. Acting Defense Minister Oscar Humberto Mejia Vitores, Government Minister Ricardo Mendez Ruiz and Communications Minister Edgar Lionel Ortega Rivas will make up the minicabinet on security. The social mini-cabinet will be made up of Education Minister Luis Merida, Health Minister Adolfo Castaneda Felice and Labor Minister Otto Palma Figueroa.

HONDURAS

AUTHORITIES FOIL LARGE-SCALE TERRORIST PLOT

PA231345 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 21 Jul 82

[Text] The army has reportedly foiled a large-scale terrorist operation which involved the destruction of public service installations, bridges and highways. The story has been confirmed by military sources. The guerrilla operation was reportedly directed exclusively at the capital. Important documents have been obtained through statements by persons linked to extreme leftist movements who have been arrested, as well as through a search of a residence in Florencia neighborhood.

According to the reports, water treatment plants in Los Laureles, El Pichacho, Los (Wiltros), Miraflores and other places were to be targets of the leftist operations. The terrorist groups, heavily supported by Nicaragua and the Salvadoran leftwing, in addition to dynamiting the instllations, also planned to place unidentified substances in the water in order to cause panic and even death among the population.

The sources that provided the information indicated that documents seriously implicate the leaders of certain labor unions and organizations in Marxist-Leninist activities. Members of the local branch of the Communist Party of Honduras, which operates clandestinely, are also implicated.

Meanwhile, it has been reported that army and security forces have carried out search operations throughout the city and have turned up unlicensed vehicles stolen in Tegucigalpa and other towns, primarily San Pedro Sula. Some of the persons in those automobiles fled, while others have been arrested.

It was also learned that on Monday night some shooting was heard in southeastern Tegucigalpa, specifically in the area known as (Hato de Enmedio), near the water treatment plant in Miraflores. Investigations have revealed that soldiers stationed at these installations noted the presence of two or more suspicious-looking individuals, who fled when ordered to halt. The soldiers fired at them, presuming that any person who enters the area and refuses to identify himself or to halt when ordered to do so is up to no good.

The shooting heard at (Hato de Enmedio) on Monday night was presumably the shots fired at several individuals whose activities aroused suspicion on the Danli highway. On seeing the authorities, the individuals fled.

The authorities have announced that the army will remain on guard at public service installations, such as water works, the National Electric Power Enterprise and the Honduran Telecommunications Enterprise, as long as circumstances justify.

COMMUNIQUE ATTACKS NICARAGUA'S 'MISINFORMATION'

PA241738 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Communique issued by the Presidency Secretariat 23 July]

[Text] In a recent interview in EL NUEVO DIARIO, Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto said the Honduran proposal for the internationalization of peace is merely a publicity stunt because Honduras is doing just the opposite: taking steps to regionalize war. Thus the Nicaraguan foreign minister has joined the misinformation campaign against the Honduran Government, always seeking reasons, we suppose, to justify the attacks on our territory that are already underway. Father d'Escoto cannot disregard the fact that the Honduran Government has repeatedly proposed to Nicaragua that negotiations be held to internationalize peace and that it has been the Nicaraguan Government that in one way or another has refused to take any action in this regard.

Honduras has repeatedly explained to Nicaragua the need to reach general disarmament in the region to lead to an objective and reasonable reduction in weapons, troops and foreign military advisers to levels universally recognized as proper for any democratic society governed by a system of law. The Nicaraguan Government's attitude has been in total opposition to this desire. Honduras has repeatedly asked Nicaragua to study and agree on appropriate mechanisms for international supervision and vigilance throughout the territory, including border zones and strategic areas. To date, Nicaragua has refused to agree to this international supervision and vigilance and thus to prevent the discovery of those who sponsor and promote underground actions, hidden maneuvers and gunrunning in their efforts to introduce subversion and terrorism in Central America.

The Nicaraguan Government, through Commander Daniel Ortega, told the international press that the Nicaraguan authorities support the anti-government guerrillas in Honduras. This statement has been accompanied by constant attacks on Honduran territory by Sandinist soldiers, and in the last few days terrorist actions in our territory have expanded. This is a specific example of direct intervention in our country's domestic affairs, in opposition to a people who chose a free and democratic system through universal suffrage.

The Nicaraguan Government's attitude contradicts the premises contained in the declaration signed in San Jose on the occasion of President Luis Alberto Monge's inauguration. This declaration was signed by the presidents of Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, Honduras and Costa Rica, as well as by the Belizean premier and a member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua. This means that the Nicaraguan authorities insist on conducting a misinformation campaign to damage Honduras and perhaps to justify a larger armed attack on the Honduran people and government.

We report the Nicaraguan Government's warmongering attitude to the international public, while reiterating Honduras' policy of neutrality and nonintervention in other countries' domestic affairs. However, we warn that the Hondurans are willing to defend our territorial integrity and the peaceful coexistence of our people, as well as to ensure that our sovereign will, as expressed at the polls on 29 November, is respected.

NO SALVADORAN REBELS SHELTER IN REFUGEE CAMPS

PA241806 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Text] Oscar Mejia Arellano, government and justice secretary, has refuted a statement by the Salvadoran defense minister to the effect that the guerrillas fighting in his country find protection at refugee camps in western Honduras. Honduras is not protecting the Salvadoran guerrillas in refugee camps, Mejia Arellano said, and questioned the basis for the Salvadoran officials' statements.

The Honduran secretary said: Our acceptance of Salvadoran refugees is based on humanitarian reasons and has no other purpose. This doesn't mean we are helping the guerrillas destabilize the present Salvadoran regime. He added that they have had no results in efforts to have other countries accept some of the refugees in order to lighten Honduras' heavy and difficult burden in supporting and controlling these immigrants. In conclusion, he guaranteed that there are no Somozist bands operating in the country and said that if the Nicaraguan Government says there are, it is because it has an ideological position that differs from ours.

PRESIDENT URGES UNITY IN COUNTRY'S PRESENT CRISIS

PA240003 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 21 Jul 82

[Speech by President Suazo Cordova from balcony of Presidential Palace 20 July on his return from the United States -- recorded]

[Text] Dear countrymen: Today as I was descending from the plane I was deeply moved and greatly satisfied to see that generous and loving people, each one of you, were affectionately and joyfully awaiting the arrival of their president, who is your friend and your brother. Here on this same balcony, when I assumed the presidency on 27 January, I delivered a brief message to the Honduran people on that memorable day of the initiation of the constitutional regime and the government of all Hondurans.

Today we return with our heads high, in the same manner in which we left to accept a kind invitation from U.S. President Ronald Reagan. We have returned in the same manner, with our heads high and our hearts full of deep love for all the Honduran people. On this opportunity I would like to stress to the Honduran people that we must all remain solidly united, that we must not care about ourselves only, but instead, about all the Honduran people. We must preserve peace and tranquillity in this country, which is in the middle of the strife-torn Central American region. The Honduran people and the Honduran Armed Forces, the president of the republic and his entire government team have sworn before the fatherland's altar that we will maintain peace and tranquillity in our country and that we will respect our neighboring countries, but we also demand respect for Hondurans. [applause]

I am facing the most difficult time in the history of our country, which has an acute economic crisis. We have faith and confidence, however, that with the best men and women in this country who love it, we will pull the country forward.

We want the Honduran people to know that we will continue working for the social and economic welfare of our country. I also want to tell some of our fellow countrymen that this is not the time to provoke difficult situations in our country; that this is not the time to impose demands on a government the Honduran people know is working under strict austerity measures. The Honduran people know that we are handling the people's funds with honesty. We want our fellow countrymen to know that if we had the necessary economic resources, our government would gladly grant the requests that have been made throughout Honduras. [applause]

[Word indistinct] movements that sometimes try to provoke the authorities, since this will only be used as a struggle banner by those who want to foment chaos and unrest in our beloved fatherland, Honduras. [applause] The president of the republic asks all the Honduran people to remain calm and serene, to remain solidly united, because here we are not defending Suazo Cordova; we are defending our beloved fatherland, Honduras. [applause] We are not defending the interests of an individual or group; we are working to save our country, and this is our commitment, our great commitment, because I and the members of my Cabinet work 12-14 hours a day in order to help our country find the true path toward redemption, and the economic and social welfare of all Hondurans. [applause]

In closing, I want to make a very special plea, because this time I will talk to you as your friend and fellow partisan: The Honduran Liberal Party should remain solidly united [applause], supporting the constitutional government, and I hope that the other social, political, and economic sectors will say "present" at this hour of redemption of our beloved fatherland, Honduras. Thank you very much, Honduran people.

NICARAGUA

PASTORA DISSOLVES SANDINO REVOLUTIONARY FRONT

PA261423 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Pastora has dissolved the Sandino Revolutionary Front [FRS]. Commander Eden Pastora released a communique to the Costa Rican media announcing his decision to dissolve the FRS.

The well-known revolutionary leader justified his position by the fact that Somozist guards are operating in northern Nicaragua, saying: I don't want to be linked eventually with those who represent a true threat to the Nicaraguan people. I want to make it clear that the struggle against the genocidal guards will continue until they are no longer a threat to the Nicaraguan and Central American people, Pastora noted.

Pastora's communique notes that he has not accepted Jose Francisco Cardenal's proposal to unify the anti-Sandinist groups, as this would be a manipulated grouping of revolutionary and progressive forces with criminal mummies and gorillas from the National Guard. Commander Pastora denied and condemned Jose Francisco Cardenal's statement about efforts to unify anti-Sandinist groups. He is irresponsibly putting the revolutionary and progressive forces and criminal National Guard gorillas together in one bag, the communique notes. It is logical that Cardenal should do this, since he is being used for that very purpose, Commander Pastora said.

Pastora reiterated his Sandinist, popular, democratic and anti-imperialist position. He said he will never let himself be used against the greatest achievement of the Nicaraguan people: the Sandinist people's revolution.

Commander Pastora dissolved the FRS as a political and military organization and stated that no one is authorized to use this acronym. He said that true and authentic Sandinism will not be restored until its spirit is recovered. The communique notes that under the current circumstances in Nicaragua the FRS acronym could be used to manipulate and confuse the people. Pastora's communique makes it clear that he will continue the struggle against the Somozist guards until they are no longer a threat to the Nicaraguan and Central American people.

NEW ANTI-FSLN MOVEMENT ANNOUNCED IN COSTA RICA

PA261301 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Communique by the Civic Movement for Democracy in Nicaragua (Movimiento Civico pro-Democracia en Nicaragua) in San Jose, dated July 1982]

[Text] In view of the fact that the Nicaraguan revolution has been betrayed by the nine commanders, who have, to the world's astonishment, placed it shamelessly in a position of servitude to the Soviet and Cuban communists, treacherously perverting the Nicaraguan people's glorious history, we, a group of citizens who love freedom and democracy, who are filled with sorrow as a result of the perfidy to which our people have been exposed throughout their history and who also feel great love for Costa Rica, which we feel is threatened by communist expansionism being implemented through the puppets of the FSLN leadership, hereby announce to all of the country's active forces that we have created the Civic Movement for Democracy in Nicaragua. Its objectives are:

1. To seek true democracy in Nicaragua through civic action.
2. To reveal the tragic reality of Nicaragua to the Costa Rican people and to denounce the threat to this country that the totalitarian Nicaraguan state represents.
3. To identify ourselves with the people of Nicaragua and to denounce to the world the fact that the current Nicaraguan regime has betrayed and is treacherously repressing its own people.
4. To support to our fullest ability all Nicaraguan citizens who may require our assistance because of the suffering caused by the totalitarian Nicaraguan regime's cruel repression.

5. To combat strongly the expansionist and repressive totalitarianism of international communism that has been imposed in Nicaragua today, suppressing fundamental human rights and constituting a denial of freedom and even of human life.

We express our solidarity with the suffering people of Nicaragua, particularly with:

1. The Indian communities, such as the Miskitos, Sumus and Ramas, which have been brutally attacked for trying to defend their right to preserve their culture and their land.
2. The other communities who today suffer the onslaught of the people's church, which is trying to deprive them of spiritual substance.
3. The independent unions that are suffering repression merely for defending their labor-related rights.
4. The independent political parties, which continue to be unyielding in their struggle for a true democracy and which refuse to play into the hands of the totalitarianism that rules Nicaragua.
5. The blood shed by the heroes and martyrs who, through their love of democracy, fell on the Nicaraguan battlefields; and with those who, in one way or another, have fought for the Nicaraguan people, who have been so criminally betrayed.
6. The media, which are repressed and gagged by the sadly notorious laws of the black-and-red.

D'ESCOTO CHARGES HONDURAS' ALVAREZ BEHIND ATTACK

PA250455 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0434 GMT 25 Jul 82

[Text] Managua, 24 Jul (ACAN-EFE) -- Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto today accused Gen Gustavo Alvarez of being "directly responsible" for the attack by an anti-Sandinist group in northwestern Nicaragua. In a news conference tonight at Government House in Managua, and in the presence of the ambassadors of Venezuela, Mexico, France and Honduras, the foreign minister described the incident that left 14 militiamen dead, 4 wounded and 8 kidnapped.

He said: "Although it may seem undiplomatic, I have to mention the name of the person responsible for the crime: Gen Gustavo Alvarez, the principal instrument the United States uses in Honduras, not to regionalize the peace, but to regionalize the war." D'Escoto said General Alvarez wants to provoke Nicaragua in order to facilitate the excuse the Reagan administration is looking for to stage a large-scale attack on Nicaragua. It was a Nicaraguan Democratic Front (FDN) group estimated at 100 men that attacked San Francisco del Norte, 260 km northwest of here and 7 km from the Honduran border.

Roberto Martinez Ordonez, Honduran ambassador to Nicaragua, who assumed the post 7 days ago, said his diplomatic mission in Nicaragua was beginning under difficult circumstances, but that concerning what the foreign minister said regarding General Alvarez, "I am not disputing it, but neither am I accepting it."

Further on 'Invasion'

PA231510 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Jul 82

[Text] In a joint operation the Sandinist army and state security forces annihilated a counterrevolutionary military group entrenched in northern Zelaya. The group had planned to sabotage the celebration of the Sandinist revolution's third anniversary. The infiltration of large counterrevolutionary military forces from Honduran territory, equipped with U.S.-made heavy weapons, trained by elements of the Honduran Armed Forces and supported by the 15 September radio station and by a group of Moravian priests, was reported at a news conference at the Defense Ministry.

The conference was headed by Commander Marcos Somarriba, Interior Ministry representative to the 5th Military Region, and Deputy Commander Ramon Masis, chief of the Sandinist army in Zelaya.

The sabotage was to take place 1 through 19 July along with attacks on Puerto Cabezas and Tasba Pri and followed by a coordinated operation throughout the country. The camp of the counterrevolutionary military unit, located at Seven Bank, 38 km south of Puerto Cabezas, was located by the Sandinist and state security forces late in June. The fighting started on 4 July and ended on the night of 18 July with the annihilation of the 98-man detachment, as follows: 75 dead, 10 wounded and still hiding in the mountains and 4 captured. The rest fled into Honduran territory. Some 1,000 revolutionaries in camps throughout the vast territory of northern Zelaya have been introduced into the country from Honduras. They are highly trained and are grouped into regular-sized detachments. They receive all kinds of support from the Honduran Army.

Commander Marcos Somarriba and Deputy Commander Ramon Masis said Maj Leonel Luque, the military chief of Puerto Lempira, and Major Pinell, a member of the Honduran military intelligence corps, are responsible for introducing these counterrevolutionary armed forces into Nicaragua. They also said that as a result of this complicity what were previously counterrevolutionary armed groups in northern Zelaya have now become the special forces battalion of Puerto Cabezas [batallon de fuerzas especiales de Puerto Cabezas]. Here is an excerpt of yesterday's press conference at the Defense Ministry by Deputy Commander Ramon Masis:

[Begin recording] The presence of large detachments of armed counterrevolutionaries in northern Zelaya is closely linked to the continuing presence of counterrevolutionary camps in Honduran territory. This is where these counterrevolutionaries received military training, weapons, ammunition, logistical support and protection from the Honduran Army. Field grade officers of the Honduran Army are involved in this task, in this mission of providing direct support to the counterrevolution.

Major Luque and Major Pinell are two of the main promoters of counterrevolutionary activities against our country, and specifically against the northern Zelaya area. Based on this support, based on this fact, large contingents of armed men began to infiltrate our country and have formed combat units. We cannot speak simply of armed counterrevolutionary groups; these are armed detachments, totally structured units, with a structure, weapons and logistical support of a regular armed force, as well as with the training of a regular army. [end recording]

The top leader of the counterrevolutionary force that was annihilated in Seven Bank is Moravian Pastor Alejo Teofilo, and his second in command is ideological leader Tirilo Cirilo, also a Moravian pastor. This was also announced at the news conference to report on the latest armed clashes in northern Zelaya. Other Moravian pastors mentioned by Guerrilla Commander Marcos Somarriba are Silvio Diaz, Santos Clevan, (Whisky Diego) and Edwin Clevan. These gentlemen's task is to manipulate the people's religious beliefs and encourage them, in an opportunistic fashion, to reject the revolution. This activity is carried out in conjunction with diversionist broadcasts from Radio 15 September and are part of an overall plan drawn up by the enemies of our revolutionary process with advice from the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency and the support of Honduran Army sectors.

Companeros Somarriba and Masis said that even though the counterrevolutionary detachment was annihilated, the danger of the implementation of the overall plan still exists, because these are still several operational bases in Nicaragua that receive support from across the Honduran border.

Daniel Ortega Speech

PA261642 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1240 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Speech by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, at funeral of 15 people "killed by counter-revolutionaries"; in San Francisco del Norte, Chinandega Department, 25 July -- recorded]

[Excerpts] For many months we have been denouncing the U.S. Government's attitude toward the Nicaraguan people. This attitude fosters war against us. It is an attitude that seeks to destroy our revolution. It is an attitude that seeks to kill our humble and hardworking people. We have been unable to stop that attitude, despite the efforts we have exerted internationally to get the current U.S. administration to change its attitude toward Nicaragua, to respect the Nicaraguan revolution and to seek an understanding with the current Nicaraguan Government. Unfortunately, we have not obtained a reply from the current U.S. administration to these demands by the Nicaraguan people.

We are not going to (?err) here by blaming only those criminal Guardsmen for the death of our companeros. We are not going to make a mistake by blaming only those who give support to the Somozist Guardsmen in Honduras. We have to point to the one primarily responsible for these deaths, primarily responsible for the grief of our people, the grief of the murdered companeros' mothers and relatives, and that is the U.S. Government. That government has a President named Ronald Reagan, and we challenge him, we accuse him and we hold him responsible for the blood spilled in Nicaragua. [applause, chanting of slogans]

Today we come, filled with grief and indignation, to honor the heroes who have died. We tell certain Nicaraguans and certain media that say that they are Nicaraguan, and certain sectors of the church that say that they are concerned about the people, that it is time they begin to condemn these crimes, that it is time they excommunicated those who kill our people in this way, that it is time they stop asking that we release the criminal Guardsmen imprisoned in Nicaraguan jails, that it is time genuinely to demonstrate their identification with the fatherland and with Nicaragua and to stop their campaigns in favor of the criminal Guardsmen who are imprisoned. We will propose to the junta and to the National Directorate that as long as these criminal acts continue we should not free those imprisoned Guardsmen, even after they have served their sentences. [applause, chanting of slogans]

Fourteen companeros, 14 Nicaraguan brothers, 14 sons of Sandino, have fallen while heroically fighting those murderers -- I am told there were 15 companeros, rather than 14. From their caskets our brothers accuse those who are truly responsible for these crimes: U.S. policy, the complicity of Honduran Army and government sectors and the criminal Guardsmen and their accomplices in Nicaragua, who are happy about these deaths. From their caskets our brothers tell us that those criminals, those plans that imperialism wants to implement against Nicaragua, those attacks have no future and that "they will not pass." [chanting of "They will not pass"]

Last night on Jicote Mountain, there was a confrontation with some of these criminals who were fleeing to Honduran territory and with others who were waiting for them in Honduran territory. It should be known that immediately after this criminal attack the military leaders of the region got in touch with Honduran Army officers to tell them that the criminals were returning to Honduras and to specify the points through which they would probably pass. The Honduran officers' reply was basically that they could not do anything about it. We think the reason they couldn't do anything about those criminals is because they have been doing a lot for them. This is so true that there were three Honduran Army trucks on the other side of the border, a few kilometers from the line.

The armed groups of Somozist Guardsmen were waiting for the criminals, and it was with this group that [words indistinct]. It was these criminals who sustained 15 dead. On our part, we sustained four dead and four wounded. What do these events confirm? That we do not exaggerate when we said that we are being invaded silently and criminally and that the attacks in this area cannot be viewed as isolated from those that have been taking place in the northern area of Nicaragua's Atlantic region. And that all of these actions cannot be viewed as separate from the military exercises the Honduran and U.S. Armed Forces will begin tomorrow. Those exercises are going to take place in the Honduran Atlantic area, in the zone of Puerto Lempira, near Nicaragua. The activity in the camps on the other side of the border has also intensified. We are speaking of the camp at (Chachaminoa), which we have denounced for some time, because, among others, it is here, just on the other side of the border.

What can we say? Are we going to let ourselves be provoked? No, we are not going to be provoked. Are we going to wage war on Honduras? No. The Honduran people are not to blame for this situation. The Honduran people have shown solidarity with the Nicaraguan people. Are we going to wage war on the Honduran Armed Forces? No, because we know that it is only certain officers, using a portion of those armed forces, who support that criminal action, obeying and observing the U.S. Government's plans, as passed through the Central Intelligence Agency, the famous U.S. CIA.

Therefore, what do we have to say? That we are going to further strengthen our defenses. This means that we have the obligation to seek weapons, no matter where, to arm ourselves to the teeth and to defend the integrity of our territory, the sovereignty of our fatherland and the achievements of the revolution. [applause, chanting of slogans] This means we are going to denounce, as we are now denouncing to the world, those who are actually responsible for these criminal actions and that we expect a responsible and determined action from Latin American and European governments, aid in preventing a war from breaking out in Central America.

This means we must be patient. However, we are going to be impatient -- and we are already impatient -- with those criminals. We are going to fight them with all our resoluteness and determination. We must force them out of their ratholes and crush them. We are not willing to sit idly by in the face of these criminal actions. [applause]

One of the slogans those criminals wrote on the walls of this town was "With God and patriotism, death to communism." They wrote that. In the name of God they [words indistinct]. They are using the name of God to wage counterrevolution. This has to do with the attitude of some bishops, with the attitude of some priests, who use God and religion to wage war against the revolution. We can state that those groups (words indistinct]. We can say that if those bishops are really identified with the people, and if they are concerned about God and religion being profaned, they have here the opportunity to show that they are with the people. They have the opportunity to really show that they are with God and not with the Devil.

I was saying that if they are going to excommunicate someone in this country, it should not be the humble Nicaraguans of the Santa Rosa neighborhood of Managua who did not want the removal of a priest, but instead these criminals who have come to murder the people in the name of God. We expect a positive reaction in this regard, just as we expect a positive reaction from the businessmen who are members of COSEP [Higher Council of Private Enterprise], those who are organized in political, business, merchant, industrial and other groups and who recently issued a protest note because a businessman [words indistinct] who was detained for a few hours. They immediately issued a bigh international protest, and some newsmen began to report that we are persecuting and jailing businessmen in our country.

This calls for a statement from them. They have the opportunity to show that they are really interested in strengthening the people's unity. We think the unity of the nation must be strengthened, but strengthened at the level of the nation and not around the interests of the capitalists and the exploiters; strengthened around the interests of the poor, humble workers. The unity of the nation must be strengthened, but not around the interests of the Somozist Guardsmen or the Yankee imperialists. Instead, it must be strengthened around the interests of the Sandinist people, the Sandinist militas, the Sandinist army, the Sandinist police, the Sandinist heroes. [applause, chanting of slogans]

We must tell the mothers of the dead companeros, the sisters and brothers of the murdered companeros, the children of the murdered companeros, the wives of the murdered companeros, their parents, grandparents and relatives, the people who today are mourning their dead, that the FSLN National Directorate and the Junta of the National Reconstruction Government [words indistinct] which are today also mourning their dead [words indistinct] to turn those tears into more energy, to turn those tears into more willingness to sacrifice, to turn those tears into more desire to work, to turn those tears into more discipline, more Sandinist spirit, more combativeness and more determination to be a free fatherland [audience shouts: "or death"].

JUNTA EXTENDS STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR 6 MONTHS

PA270420 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0327 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Communique issued by Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction]

[Text] Whereas: 1. The plans of aggression against our fatherland are being carried out through attacks of all sorts by counterrevolutionary bands and military units to the detriment of the nation's order, security and economy and the integrity of its inhabitants, for which imperialism's aggressive policy is responsible;

2. These serious attacks have culminated in the last few days with the treacherous attack against the town of San Francisco del Norte, during which 14 companeros of the Sandinist People's Militias [MPS] died, 4 were wounded and 8 kidnapped; and the attack against the Salto Grande dam in Bonzanza, during which 7 MPS companeros were killed and a companero was wounded -- both of these events took place on Saturday, 24 July, once more casting our country into mourning as a result of the barbarity of the enemies of the Nicaraguan people.

3. The revolutionary government must constantly and rigorously watch over the integrity and security of our nation by enacting, establishing and carrying out the necessary effective measures to do so. Therefore, exercising its powers, the government decrees:

1. The state of national emergency is extended for 6 months starting on the date of this decree under the terms of article 1 of Decree 996 of 5 March 1982 and Article 2 of Decree 1023 of 14 April 1982.

2. Consequently, upon the entry into force of the present decree, the term of the extension referred to in Decree 1071 of 12 July 1982 will expire and the extension decreed hereby will go into effect.

3. The present decreee will enter into effect upon its publication in any mass medium without prejudice to its subsequent publication in LA GACETA.

Issued in Managua on 26 July 1982, year of unity in face of aggression. Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. [Signed] Sergio Ramirez Mercado, Daniel Ortega Saavedra, Rafael Cordova Rivas.

BORGE VISITS INDIAN AREA; URGES COOPERATION

PA252004 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1300 GMT 25 Jul 82

[Text] Tomas Borge, commander of the revolution and interior minister, distributed 1,300 land title deeds to Miskito and Sumu families in Tasba Pri on Friday. The deeds were distributed in the settlement known as Wasminona in a ceremony also attended by Samuel Santos, minister of the Managua reconstuction board, Miguel Ernesto Vigil, housing minister, Commander Marcos Somarriba and other officials.

Speaking in a simple way, almost in parables, Borge described how the disunity that the revolution is trying to end emerged. Borge said:

[Begin recording] I am going to tell you a story that I once told the brothers of the Pacific region, so that you will understand what has occurred among us. The story is as follows: There were two brothers, who were separated from each other because they had different masters. The brothers spoke different languages and even worshiped God in different ways. On 19 July they met and almost didn't recognize each other. They mistrusted each other. One of the brothers, who had obtained a few more things out of life but who was still poor, tried to help his poorer brother. The brother accepted aid but distrusted the intentions behind it. It was difficult for them to find a common language.

After that meeting, the last master, who exploited them both, took advantage of the differences between them to keep them divided and hostile to each other, in order to dominate them once again. However, he could no longer do so. The two brothers decided to share their experiences and hopes, and together they undertook the construction of a new kingdom. The two brothers are the Pacific coast and the Atlantic coast. The master is, or rather was, imperialism and the new kingdom is the revolution. [applause] [end recording]

Commander Borge referred to the efforts of some sects to manipulate the religious feelings of the poor sectors and to divert the people's attention from the daily attacks by the assassin bands sponsored by imperialism. At the same time, those sects urge the people not to participate in revolutionary tasks. Using the same easily understood language and clear examples. Commander Borge said:

[Begin recording] Our enemies try to separate us. They try to deceive us, so that we will once again separate ourselves. We must not let them deceive us. The Gospel says, Christ says, beware of false prophets who pretend to speak on behalf of God. They come to you in sheep's clothing but they are ravening wolves. You must recognize these fierce wolves. You can tell them by their actions. You can distinguish them from your real brothers if you look at their actions. That is why the Gospel also says that the good tree cannot bear bad fruit and the bad tree cannot bear good fruit. Every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down and cast into the fire. Therefore, you will recognize them by their actions. The bad tree must be thrown into the fire and the good tree must be highly valued.

And what are the fruits that the revolution, the good tree, is giving you? In the past very few people on the Atlantic coast knew how to read. The revolution implemented the literacy campaign in various languages. Of every 100 people, 76 did not know how to read before the campaign. Now, of every 100 people, 76 know how to read. Books are no longer a mystery to you, for the inhabitants of this region of our country. You can learn much by reading books. [end recording]

Vows Defense at Any Cost

PA241720 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0048 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Text] Tasba Pri, 23 Jul (ACAN-EFE) -- Commander Tomas Borge, Nicaraguan interior minister, declared today that the Sandinists will defend Nicaragua "at any cost in lives and blood."

Borge spoke at this settlement of Miskito communities, 360 km northeast of Managua, on the commemoration of the 21st anniversary of the FSLN, while distributing land deeds to 1,300 Indian families. The interior minister spoke at Wasminona, near the mountainous region where they have detected the presence of armed anti-Sandinists who are staging military attacks on the Nicaraguan Army.

Borge said that there is a "veritable state of war" in northern Zelaya, where the Miskitos, Sumos, Ramas and Zambos Indians are located and where the Sandinists began their guerrilla struggle 21 years ago. He blamed the British and Americans of the past who wanted to deceive the Nicaraguans and "to divide us so that we would not trust one another," and laid current blame on the U.S. Government and certain sectors of the Honduran Army for the attacks on Nicaraguan military posts. "They want us to live in war, though we want peace. But if we are attacked again we will defend the country at any cost in blood and lives," Borge asserted.

The interior minister said that ever since the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency approved $19 million to destabilize the Nicaraguan revolution, this country has been the target of 45 "counterrevolutionary" attacks that have left 100 dead, including both civilians and soldiers. He added that from 3 to 15 July, 22 attacks have been perpetrated, resulting in 40 dead and 30 wounded among the Sandinists.

The settlement program at Tasba Pri, which means "free land" in Miskito, includes the construction of 1,700 homes at a cost of 52 million cordobas ($5.2 million), within a 53,000 hectare area in the dense, Atlantic jungle region, with highways leading to three of the country's mining centers. Of this total, 400 homes have been built to date. These settlements emerged after the Nicaraguan Government decided to transfer thousands of Miskito families who had lived on the banks of the Coco River, on the Honduran border, until last January.

Borge said there are Miskitos in Managua serving sentences for involvement in "counter-revolutionary" plans, but explained that as a sign of "generosity on the part of the revolution," their sentences will be reviewed individually.

REBELS DOWN COPTER, CAPTURE CUBANS, E. GERMAN

PA231823 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1738 GMT 23 Jul 82

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 23 Jul (ACAN-EFE) -- A Nicaraguan Army helicopter was downed, 4 of its crewmembers were killed and 14 others, including 2 Cubans and an East German, were captured by the anti-Sandinist 27 May Legion, the Honduran newspaper EL HERALDO reported today. "A communique signed by Commander Fox and datelined somewhere in Nicaragua, 15 July, states that the Sandinist helicopter was downed on 9 July," EL HERALDO reports.

The newspaper also indicates that "on 11 July a fishing boat, which in reality was a spy ship of the Cuban fleet, was captured and a patrol boat sailing in Nicaraguan territorial waters was sunk."

"On that same date, combat occurred on the Patch River in the region of Laguna de Perlas, Nicaragua, resulting in the death of 27 Sandinists and 5 members of the Legion," the report in EL HERALDO states. The anti-Sandinist "war report" concludes with a warning to the French Government on its military assistance to the Nicaraguan regime and prohibiting "any maritime vessel from taking cargo or food to Nicaragua."

CASTRO ADDRESSES ANNIVERSARY RALLY IN BAYAMO

FL262315 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2206 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Speech by Fidel Castro at mass rally in Bayamo, Granma Province, commemorating the 29th anniversary of the assaults on the Moncada and Carlos Manuel de Cespedes Barracks -- live]

[Text] Distinguished Guests, Party and Government Comrades, Compatriots of Granma and Cuba: I must begin by explaining why Granma Province was chosen to commemorate this anniversary. In the first place, the attack on the Bayamo Garrison is indissoluably linked to the Moncada plan. Its objective was first of all to seize the garrison, make the city revolt and establish here, on the banks of the Cauto [River], the first defense against enemy troop reinforcements. Therefore, Bayamo and Santiago de Cuba are inseparably linked to this date we commemorate today.

Furthermore, we are in a land filled with history. How could Cuba's history be written without Granma's history? This is where our first independence war began, in Majagua, led by that illustrious son of this province, Carlos Manuel de Cespedes. The first battles were fought around here. Our Mambi forces' first machete battle was fought nearby. They were led by Maximo Gomez. An event that rocked the world occurred in those days: the burning of the city of Bayamo rather than surrendering it to the invaders. [applause] This is why it can be said that the first cry of "Independence or death," which is the same as "Fatherland or death," was heard in this city of Bayamo. [applause]

This is where our national anthem was written and sung for the first time. [applause] Very important battles were fought here under Antonio Maceo's orders. [applause] In addition to the Moncada action, our final action for independence began around here. [applause] The Granma expedition disembarked in this province. [applause] Our first victorious battles and many of the decisive actions of our liberation war were fought in this province. These cities -- Manzanillo and Bayamo -- supported us without a trace of hesitation, sacrificing the lives of many of their children in the first and most difficult moments of the war. Many of the combatants of the victorious rebel army columns came from this province. [applause]

For an important part of the war, the rebel army's general command was located in this province, on the border with Santiago de Cuba Province. [applause] There are many moments, scenes and places closely associated not only with the Cuban people but with all of us; thus the satisfaction of being able to celebrate this 29th anniversary in Granma Province, in the city of Bayamo [applause]. This is not exclusively due to its historic merits, but to the extraordinary work performed last year. [applause] It must be said that the province earned the right to be the seat of this 26 July [commemoration] not only because of its history but because of its present performance. [applause]

Here I have some data that explains this. I hope the people of Granma will not be bored listening to their long list of successes during the last year. [applause]

This province extends over a territory of 8,461 square km and has a population of 744,573 inhabitants with a density of 88 inhabitants per square km. In recent years, the population's structure has varied considerably in favor of concentration in the cities. In 1978, the city of Bayamo had 71,484 inhabitants. In 1981, the city already had 100,543 inhabitants, showing a 40.6 [percent] growth, while the province's population grew by 15.2 percent during the same period. I still do not understand clearly how so many new people fit into this city.

The province's coproduction structure indicates that the industrial sector ranks highest in the total value produced with 50.6 percent, followed by the livestock-agricultural sector with 27.6 [percent] and construction with 12.6 [percent]. This proportion was maintained more or less stably for the last 5 years. There was a certain tendency toward growth in the industrial sector, which increased from 47.6 [percent] in 1977 to the aforementioned 50.6 [percent] at the end of 1981. Nevertheless, we should point out that Granma's basic economy is livestock-agricultural and is based on three main lines: sugar, rice and livestock production.

This province has experienced significant development since the victory of the revolution. This is evidenced by the annual growth experienced by the volume of production originating in this territory, keeping in mind, among other things, the volume of investment which the revolution has made in the last few years, making investments for economic and social development and improving the welfare and security of the people. The growth in Granma's economic activity may be seen, for example, in the past few years since the beginning of the application of the new political-administrative division. Gross product in millions of pesos: 433.3 in 1977; 452.2 in 1978; 442.4 in 1979; 469.1 in 1980 and 535.7 in 1981.

Already, for the first half of this year we can forecast that production will continue to increase independent of the prevailing objective difficulties. The development achieved by Granma has been influenced by a number of investments made in the last few years; [such as] the Manzanillo battery factory, the irrigation sprinkler systems factory, the Media Luna Torula factory, Manzanillo and Bayamo bakeries -- which have permitted an increase in the quality of this important product for the people -- the 2 December bulk sugar terminal in Ceiba Hueca and the entire system and warehouses established around its [production] activity with a capacity to deliver 700 metric tons per hour of raw sugar; the El Cacao stone crusher in Jiguani municipality, which is capable of crushing 1.2 million cubic meters of stone per year; the Bayamo clay pipe factory with a capacity to produce 500 km of pipe per year; the Manzanillo ice and soft drink factories which have filled long-awaited needs along these two lines; the candy factory which has a production capacity of 10.5 metric tons in an 8-hour shift; the Bayamo cheese factory with a capacity to produce 800 metric tons per year using 30,000 liters of milk daily, capable of producing 17 varieties of cheese; the expansion of the Yara candy factory; the expansion of the Bayamo meat combine; the new Grito de Yara sugar mill located in Rio Cauto municipality with a capacity to grind 600,000 arrobas of cane per day.

We should point out that together with this sugar mill the capacities of other sugar mills in the province are being expanded to reach a projected production of 2.93 million arrobas per day during the next harvest.

In the province's other industrial plants, modernization and repairs have been made to increase the development of the various activities. In the social area a vast development program has been implemented. The Celia Sanchez Manduley surgical clinic-hospital, a 600-bed modern hospital, opened last year, has already served more than 700,000 patients. The opening of the Manzanillo psychiatric hospital with 110 beds has considerably improved the care of psychiatric patients.

The province has a total 2,511 beds in its hospitals with 463 doctors and 170 stomatologists. The recent graduation of 47 new doctors, 260 nurses, 147 intermediate level technicians and the qualification of 198 nursing assistants as nurses will improve the existing staff beginning in September.

For the coming school year we forecast an enrollment of 498 medical students from the third to sixth year, 30 stomatologists on their last course, and some 1,900 intermediate level technicians, which by the end of the current 5-year period would place the province in a position to double its number of doctors, stomatologists, nurses and other technicians.

The medical care in rural areas has been revitalized. The 11 rural hospitals have been modernized, expanding services with diagnostic X-ray equipment and clinical laboratories. Eight medical dispensaries have been put into operation in mountainous zones and three are under construction which have stomatology equipment and personnel to operate it.

The tasks of hygiene and epidemiology have been developed. The professional and technical personnel for medical and other specialties have been assigned. The transportation and equipment for the laboratories have been increased. This has made it possible to face the situations we have encountered with better efficiency and to improve control over water, food and working conditions.

Just in 1981, five educational projects were completed: the Bayamo pre-university farm institute, the 600-student urban basic secondary school in Bayamo, the 1,200-student urban basic secondary school in Manzanillo, the Roberto Ramirez machine shop and the Manzanillo semi-borading school.

During the second half of 1982, five projects will be completed; the Vado del Yeso semi-boarding school; the Bayamo physcial education teachers' school; the (Jose Luis Tasen) machine shop; the La Ricardo basic secondary farm school; and the Manzanillo health polytechnic.

Granma concludes this year -- the 29th anniversary of the assualts on the Moncada and Carlos Manuel de Cespedes Barracks in Santiago de Cuba and Bayamo respectively -- with its best record in history in the area of school promotions. [applause]

Regarding the material support given to primary schools in the mountains, we should point out that from 1981 to today, 11,705 pieces of school furniture have been delivered, and also 715 blackboards, 500 water tanks, 300 Jose Marti busts, 415 flags and 300 beds have been delivered to these schools, thereby thoroughly resolving their basic needs. That is always one of the more complex problems, the matter of the schools isolated in the mountains. The problem was brought up in the National Assembly and the provincial people's government was asked to make a special effort to resolve these difficulties.

In the area where the Sierra Maestra National Park is being built, 33 schools have been completed and 51 others have been repaired. Furthermore, already built are 12 elementary schools for music, 2 for plastic arts, 1 for art teachers, 1 health polytechnic institute, 1 school for physical education teachers, 1 school for beginners in school sports and 2 centers of the Higher Education Ministry -- the Teacher Training Institute of Higher Education and the Livestock Agricultural Sciences Institute of Higher Education. This is in addition to the faculties of medicine operating in the hospitals with students in their last years.

In 5 of the 13 municipalities, the 10 basic cultural institutions are already in operation. Work is ongoing to complete the others in the rest of the municipalities. A modern hotel was built in Manzanillo, the Guacanayabo. In Pilon, the Marea del Portillo Hotel was completed. And the recently completed Sierra Maestra Hotel was built in Bayamo. This one has 204 rooms. The airports of Bayamo and Manzanillo are already in operation. [applause] Both have modern and comfortable halls for the passengers. The one in Manzanillo, with 2,500 meters of construction, is considered to be big enough to have large aircraft operating from it, the international-type aircraft.

New roads and streets have been completed. Some kilometers of streets have been given top layers of asphalt. Sidewalks have been built with the participation of the masses. New projects, such as the Jesus Menendez suburb, which was recently begun, are being built. There are new recreation centers such as the movie hall in the Jesus Menendez suburb. Schools for physical education teachers are under construction and so forth.

The monument at La Plata [applause], which is being built at La Patria Square -- if you agree that it be called La Patria Square... [leaves thought unfinished]. The beer bottling plant is about to be completed with a storage capacity of 60,000 liters. We also have the Bayamo concrete block factory and the electric modernization of the Bayamo stadium. These are projects due to be completed during this 6 month period. If we had a 26 July commemoration here every year, it would be something marvellous. [applause] In the Camilo Cienfuegos suburb, the new section called La Malaria has been a real shock project for the residents of Baymao. Without a sewer system and using the malaria ditch as drainage, these suburbs are constantly flooded every year causing the evacuation of many families.

The so-called malaria appeared to be the center of a problem and main focus of diseases. In February 1981, the work began on the pipeline with scarce resources of materials and technology and, out of 45 km scheduled to be built, 36.6 km have been completed to date of the sewer and drainage system. Together with these projects of social benefit, there are others such as the increase of 3,100 telephone lines throughout the province, benefitting nine of the 13 existing municipalities. The 13 municipalities have already been automated among themselves, and from any of them communication can be established to the city of Havana, Las Tunas, Holguin and Santiago de Cuba Provinces.

Television range has been increased by 20 percent. Some 150 km of railway repairs have been completed, both medium and large. Three railway stations are under construction in Bayamo, Rio Cauto and Guamo. [applause]

Besides all these projects, one must note the progress made in electric service in the province. In 1981 some 134.6 km of electric lines were completed, providing service to 95 economic projects and 35 social projects as well as a total of 3,776 families. The plan for 1982, completed as of 30 June, amounts to 85.5 km of lines. Some 142 projects, social and economic, have been provided electric services as well as 23 suburbs with a total of 910 families, which did not have any urtil this year.

Beginning in 1980 and through the first 6 months of this year, a total of 37 power plants have been installed on the mountains with a capacity of 1,331 kilowatts, providing service to 1,910 families. In addition to providing service to families, these plants service schools, hospitals, social clubs, stores and others on a regular basis. Road construction has been given special attention. Six km of the historic Providencia-La Plata Road, with a total length of 13.2 km, were completed in 1981 and 5.7 km during the first 6 months of this year. The 165 men working in this brigade have already completed the segment to Santo Domingo and the earth-moving operations from Santo Domingo to El Alto deo Naranjo.

In irrigation and drainage, 482.3 caballerias of rice and 90 of tubers have been benefited during 1981. During the first 6 months of this year, 175 and 32 caballerias, respectively, have been benefited. Currently, the province has 445.3 million cubic meters of damming capacity. This has cost some 50 million pesos, including the recently completed Guisa Dam.

Many of you remember that prior to the revolution's triumph, there was not a single cubic meter of damming capacity in this province. These dams mainly benefit the cultivation of rice, tubers, sugarcane and grazing land. Work is going on in the Paso Malo Dam to raise its total damming capacity to 100 million cubic meters. The Media Luna Dam is under construction. This one will have a damming capacity of 41.6 million cubic meters and will benefit sugarcane areas.

Work is going on in the Corojo Dam project, which will have a capacity of 96 million cubic meters and will benefit rice, tuber and sugarcane plantations. These hydraulic projects are very important because the agricultural area grows and develops, such as the cultivation of cane, rice, tubers, vegetables. If we do not work in these projects, we could encounter difficulties with irrigation, above all, in years such as this one and previous ones which were dry.

Alongside the work carried out in Granma in recent months to achieve social and ecnomic development and the work speedily carried out to salute this glorious 26 July, the workers of Granma have worked intensely at a number of productive tasks. Among these we might mention the following: At the end of 1981, the province fulfilled its mercantile production plan by 103 percent and grew by 14 percent in relation to the same period the previous year. During the first semester, the mercantile production plan was fulfilled by 107.5 percent, growing by 10.2 [percent] in relation to the first semester of 1981. The growth registered was due mainly to an overall increase in work productivity rather than to an increase in the number of workers. Cost per production weight decreased throughout the province, so work has been performed more efficiently.

The sugar harvest recently completed here in Granma is the biggest in its entire history. [applause] It was finished with 95 percent of the projected production. You may remember that the most capitalists used to obtain was 85 percent of the projected production. Yet this year, this province ground 95 percent of the projected production. [applause] The production obtained -- 472,000.4 metric tons of sugar -- was higher than that of 1981 by 47,000 tons and exceeded by much more than 100,000 [tons] the biggest harvest ever obtained by the capitalists.

No oil was consumed during the entire harvest to produce raw sugar. [applause] As for the weeding of the sugar fields, by 20 July there were no medium-sized or tall weeds. This is the first time in recent years that this goal was achieved by this date. [applause]

Significant achievements were also obtained in the cattle sector. The province's total cattle herds -- 440,093 head grew during the semester by 2.8 [percent]. This represents 12,187 additional head of cattle. The milk producing cows -- 37,600 head -- represent 116 percent of the plan. Compared with 1981, growth amounted to 17 percent. The production of over 314,000 liters of milk during one shift in the peak phase is one of the achievements of the province's cattlemen.

The production of 44,000 metric tons of ensilage represents a 34 percent increase as compared to the same period the previous year.

With regard to rice, results are considered positive. During the previous winter planting, the yields obtained amounted to 1,405 quintals per caballeria. The yield plan called for 1,200, so the plan was surpassed. During the two planting periods we have managed to produce 67,000 quintals more than in the two 1981 planting periods even though 623 caballerias were not planted due to a water shortage in the reservoirs. The entire year's yield amounted to 1,042 quintals per caballeria.

In view of the critical situation resulting from the water shortages, a new irrigation method is being used. Compared to the method traditionally used, it saves water and has higher irrigation quality. It is called the microfield [microcampo] method.

As of 10 July, this year's harvest situation was as follows: The production plan up to that date called for 578,380 quintals. Real production obtained amounted to 679,576 quintals. In 422.8 harvested caballerias, instead of the planned yield of 1,299 quintals per caballeria, we obtained 1,607 quintals. As can be seen, until that date, we harevested 101,197 [all figures as heard] quintals more than had been planned, since the yields are 308 quintals per caballeria in excess of what had been programmed. This is due to new varieties and a gradual use of more efficient techniques.

I remember that in the first years of the revolution, we used to produce about 500 or 400 quintals per caballeria. The caballerias planted in winter and harvested until 10 July already showed a yield four times greater than we used to obtain in the first years of the revolution. [applause]

The plans for increased coffee production are also being fulfilled. As regards cocoa, the planting plan outlined for this 5-year period will be fulfilled this year. This will make it possible to reach 110 caballerias in the state area.

As regards forestry, the biggest effort being made at present is the foresting of the Sierra Maestra. This year's plan calls for 4.7 million saplings. We have already produced 7 million. This will enable the province to surpass the year's plan. Total mountainous zones amount to approximately 20,400 caballerias. Of these, it will be necessary to reforest some 100,500 [figures as heard]. In order to do this, some 15 million saplings will have to be planted every year. This means the reforestation plan for the Sierra Maestra will be completed at the end of this century. To achieve this goal, we have the young people's support. Two hundred young people have already been incorporated. This figure will gradually increase.

The province has 1,689 party nuclei, with 22,723 members. Of these, 20,700 are militants and 2,023 are aspirants. A total of 49 party committees operate in work centers, which look after 321 nuclei with 4,946 militants.

There are 18,500 workers in the province doing recruitment work, out of which 59.8 percent are linked to the production of goods. Since we proposed that the province could struggle to become the host city of the 26 July commemoration in 1982, a strong emulation movement was developed which was based on the 26 fundamental tasks of each rank and file organization, the communist youth and state agencies. [applause] As a result of this, all the mass organizations and the province's Union of Young Communists [UJC] were declared has having fulfilled their duties in 1981. [applause]

In addition to what we previously noted, the struggle for hosting the 26 July commemoration represented a strengthening of the province's people's government agencies. It can be stated that the struggle for hosting the 26 July commemoration has represented a strengthening in the organization of the foundations of the party, mass organizations, the UJC and agencies of the state in this province.

We believe that these statistics explain why the Granma residents were entitled to this honor. [applause] We must ask them to remain at the level of the effort they have made this year. It is clear that because of the 26 July commemoration, there is a great effort by all. But sometimes, after the great effort, the activity declines. I am not going to mention other provinces where this has occurred, but we expect from you a commitment that this will not occur in Granma. [applause]

The economic and social effort in the rest of the country has not been bad in these first 6 months of 1982. The commercial production plan was fulfilled by 101.2 percent, recording a growth of 5.5 percent compared to the same period in 1981. More than 70 percent of the growth in commercial production was obtained based on the growth of work productivity. In the growth attained in this period, the main portion was recorded by the industrial sector, but agriculture, transportation, communications, construction and commerce also grew.

The harvest we have just completed has been one of the biggest in our history. [applause] There were doubts about whether or not to mention the amount. Sometimes the so-called sugar discretion has been used. The Yankees, in their effort to slander the revolution, like to say that we produced five or six. They change the figures to help the prices. But the prices can go no lower than what they are today. Anyway, we will export -- I was referring to the prices of the so-called world market -- to that market only the amounts agreed to in agreements. The rest will go to the socialist countries, aside from domestic consumption. [applause]

In addition, these statistics are always reported to international organizations at the end of the year. If in the next 3 months we have to report to international organizations the sugar we have produced, why not tell the people here on 26 July. If the socialist countries' market is the main destination of our sugar exports and we expect to further increase those exports to that market year after year, the increase in our harvest should not affect the price in the world market. We will limit ourselves to fulfill the assigned quotas in that market.

These gains in production volume are accompanied by and are based on a significant increase in general efficiency, which has increased year after year. The comparison of the recently completed harvest with that of the previous year so demonstrates. Some 10.6 percent more cane was ground and the yield amounted to 11.5 percent more of sugar. Contributing to this was a [word indistinct] in cane which surpassed by 0.22 percent that of the previous year and which at the same time made possible a 0.20 percent higher industrial yield.

Oil consumption went from 0.70 gallons per ton of cane in 1981 to 0.26 in 1981 [as heard]. This is a significant advance and compares favorably with all other previous years. More than 100,000 tons of fuel were saved during the present harvest. The provinces of Granma, Guantanamo and Cienfuegos achieved the honorable distinction of not consuming any oil during the entire harvest. [applause]

On the average, 110,000 cane cutters and 3,000 harvesters were employed in the harvest. Compare this with the 350,000 cane cutters employed in 1970. This means we obtained a harvest which was almost as big as that of 1970, employing less than 1/3 of the cane cutters. [applause] The cane cutters increased their productivity from 252 arrobas per day in 1981 to 257 arrobas per day on the average. Once again, the youth labor army was the most productive force, yielding 326 arrobas per cane cutter. [applause]

Another relevant aspect is the very early date at which the eighth million was achieved. This time it was achieved on 7 May, in contrast with 1970, when it was achieved on 12 July. Completion of the harvest on the scheduled date has enabled the members of the sugar industry and sugar cane farms to participate more actively in the manual weeding traditionally carried out by our workers. They have maintained their efforts to clear the fields of weeds and give a revolutionary response to the lack of herbicides this year.

Progress has also been made in the use of deep planting [cultivo profundo] to maintain the rates of agricultural yield increases during the next harvest. The attention given to harvest workers was positive and had better results than during the previous harvest. In general, more encouragement and facilities were offered. In the next few months, a sustained effort will become necessary, especially to repair the mills and leave them in optimal conditions on the scheduled dates, continue the battle against weeds, and adopt measures for the correct selection and preparation of manual and mechanical cutters in order to guarantee high-yield and stable grinding from the very beginning of the next harvest. We can never forget that regardless of how low prices may be in the international markets, sugar continues to be our main source of currency. In addition, there is the decisive aspect of the fair prices that, as is already know, we receive from the USSR and the other socialist countries. [applause]

The Ministry of the Food Industry, fulfilled its plan by 99.5 percent and production grew by 11 percent as compared with the first semester last year. Outstanding among these are: the 24,2 percent growth in the area of refreshments, 11.8 percent in cured meats, 9.5 percent in the area of beer, 8.2 percent in the area of ice cream and 48.5 percent in the area of tobacco. This marked growth [for tobacco] is partly due to the fact that this was the first year of production after the blue mold epidemic among tobacco plants was exterminated. This accounts for the marked growth in tobacco production from one year to the next.

The Basic Industry Ministry fulfilled its plan by 101.4 percent. Increases of 5.5 percent in the production of bottled gas were registered, as well as a 14 percent growth in the production of lubricants, 14.3 percent in the production of salt and 59.3 percent in the production of cardboard and Bristol board.

Generation of electricity also grew by 7.54 percent. This is not entirely desirable because although part of it is generated because of new services needed by the population and for production, a part of it must be attributed to the fact that we have not yet adopted all possible measures to save energy.

The manufacture of paint has dropped to minimal levels because it depends on raw materials from the capitalist market. The manufacture of tires and paper has also decreased.

Geological and geophysical exploration connected with oil and gas continue and a modest increase has been reported so far this year in oil exploitation.

This Ministry of the Steelworking Industry [SIME] grew by 2.6 percent as compared with last year. The manufacture of equipment for the sugar industry was outstanding. It must be noted that in regard to the very important national manufacture of spare parts -- in addition to SIME, which manufactures the largest number, 10 other organizations and 8 provincial organs of the people's power participate in this area -- there has been a significant growth of 27.9 percent. This result should serve as a stimulus for even greater production, since the shortage of spare parts continues to affect agriculture, transportation, construction and many other activities.

The Ministry of Light Industry is fulfilling its plan by 98.4 percent without registering any growth as compared to the previous year. The production of this ministry was thoroughly analyzed at the last period of sessions of the National Assembly. This was broadly reported by our newspapers. The limitations of resources in convertible currency of this industry is known.

Nevertheless, the textile industry is also afflicted with a steadily changing work force and other organizational problems that we have to resolve. The fishing industry grew 7.6 percent, although we experienced adverse weather conditions in the Pacific area where our fleet of sailboats operates. There was an important increase of fishing behind dams, which represents a great nourishment reserve for the country.

The Construction Ministry fulfilled its plans 111.8 percent, but the completion of several projects, including housing, has been affected by [a lack of] finishing material. Construction abroad has continued to expand. Under different cooperation plans, at this time more than 8,000 construction workers are working in several countries, which already represents a considerable source of foreign exchange. We have to point out the increase there has been in construction, reconstruction and housing expansion that the people, with their own means, are carrying out thanks to the increase of materials alloted to the commercial funds. In constructive maintenance, although the plan was not fulfilled, there was a 17.4 percent growth.

The plan for industrial investment that the country is carrying out in projects such as electric plants, oil, nickel, sugar, citrics, textiles and machinery among others, are being developed mainly with the cooperation of the USSR and other socialist countries. It has been affected, however, due to limitations in the availability of some complementary resources that come from capitalist countries.

Not only in the area of sugar cutting but in all the sectors put together, less fuel was used in comparison to last year. This demonstrates the practical application of the saving policy. We have to continue working to increase, even more, the efficiency of our economy. We simply have to do more with less. Saving resources which we can count on must be a task of close surveillance by the party, the union and all the organizations.

In agriculture there was a 3 percent growth mainly because of a 6.8 percent increase in the sugarcane production and 11.7 percent in the nonsugarcane production. The cattle production decreased by 3.6 percent although the goals of the plan were surpassed. This plan should have been restricted because of the limitations in supplies coming from the capitalist area. The overall results of the sector were achieved thanks to the increase in productivity, although the high temperatures and drought had adverse effects on the production of food, vegetables and grazing lands. The production of milk reached 40,115 million liters, to surpass the goals of the plan by 4.1 percent. This represents 10.5 million liters more than during the same period last year. The average of liters per cow was increased as well as the number of milk cows. The plans for the delivery of cattle for slaughter was achieved, slightly reducing the mortality of calves. Pork production was increased by 11.3 percent, due to a decrease in the death rate. The production of liquid feed was improved. The sale of eggs to the state by the state enterprises reached the figure of 1,037 [break in transmission] plan by 0.8 percent. The production of poultry meat surpassed the plan by 7.5 percent, although we have to keep in mind that this average foresees a decrease in comparison with 1981 because of the limitations in the availability of time.

Transportation activity surpassed the plan by 5.7 percent, registering a 12 percent growth in comparison to the same period last year. There is, however, a decrease in the areas served by trucks as well as bus service, mainly because of the lack of spare parts and tires. The buses in the capital city also suffered damage because of the rains. They are being repaired and with the incorporation of new buses the average number of trips has been increased 26,300 in the last few days, but this still does not cover the needs of the residents.

The 1982 export plan is special because it is 11 percent lower than 1981 in value, but not so in volume. This is mainly due to the reduction in the price of sugar on the world market. Even with the increase of exports to the socialist area, we cannot completely compensate the decrease in the value of exports to the capitalist area. We also have to keep in mind the negative effect of the inflation that the capitalist and industrialized countries are transferring to us through imports that come from these countries. This impact is such that in the case of sugar the price of 7.41 cents per pound at closing time on Friday, 23 July, equals 2.82 [currency not specified] at 1970 prices. That is, with the current conditions of the world market, our country has to give two and one half times more sugar than in 1970 to be able to purchase the same amount of products. In order to soften the effects caused by the decrease in the value of the plan, measures have been taken to guarantee the fulfillment of the planned volumes stressing the increase in unit production in an important group of products. In the specific case of the sugar industry, during the first half of the year we have exported, in comparison to the same period last year, the following amounts which are greater to those exported in 1981: raw sugar 996,000 tons, refined sugar 112,000 tons and syrups 79,000 tons, natural alcohol 120,000 tons. All these figures are greater than those for the same period last year. Of course, we must add that our 1982 harvest has already been sold.

Also noteworthy are the following growth rates which are above last year's during the same period: tobacco on its stem 6,000 tons, tobacco rolls 4 million units, fishery products 13 million fish, alcoholic beverages 38,000 hectolitres, nectars and fruit juices 3,000 tons, honey 961 tons, candy 630 tons, citrus 60,000 tons, industrial naphta 69,000 tons, rods, levers and steel wiring 67,000 tons, scrap iron 8,000 tons, artificial wood panels 3,000 cubic meters, paper and cardboard waste 4,000 tons. I repeat, all this is above last year's figures for the same period of time.

We continue facing serious difficulties in the nickel trade, one of our main exports. This is a direct result of the pressures that the U.S. Government is methodically applying in countries that have been traditional clients for our product. Nevertheless, even with these results, which we believe are positive, it is necessary to make a greater effort during the second half of the year to achieve the goals to end 1982 with the total fulfillment of the plan, since there are still some difficulties in production, trade and transportation that demand the cooperation of all the involved factors.

International tourism continues taking shape as an important source for foreign exchange even though in this field, the presence of Mr Reagan's aggressive policy has also been felt. He has forbidden citizens of that country to travel to Cuba. Now they have taken the outrageous measure, with absolute contempt for the Puerto Rican people -- who could not be the host for the next Central American games -- of forbidding a group of tourists from Puerto Rico to come and cheer for their fellow citizens competing in the games.

The workers income continued to increase. The average wage is up to 179 pesos, giving us a growth rate of 6.4 percent in comparison to the first semester of 1981. Considering the increase in the labor force, the total of wages earned increased by 9.4 percent. The increase in the goods and services, combined with the effects of retail price reforms and to a notable and very encouraging increase of the people's savings, has allowed in June a positive monetary balance -- that is an excess in the income of monies compared to an output -- of 37.6 million pesos, something that had not occurred in the first semester of a year since 1974.

National efforts in education continue to yield impressive results. For the graduation of the recently completed term, without counting the students who may pass special examinations, there are the following preliminary results: 202,874 sixth grade students, 178,447 secondary level students, 39,200 preuniversity students, 58,440 technicians and skilled laborers, 20,981 high school teachers, 21,192 six grade adult students, 43,278 secondary level adult students, 9,096 preuniversity adult students and 21,009 new university professionals.

A total of 4,265 professional educators are today offering their services in 25 countries. We must also mention the organization and development work underway on the scientific sector in the country, the results of which we shall see in the near future.

In the cultural sector, we should refer to the increasing number of libraries, museums, galleries, culture houses, bookstores and other basic installations.

In sports and physical culture, we must point out that in the next few days we will be welcoming the athletes of our region with the opening of the 14th Central American and Caribbean Games. [applause] All those persons who, under difficult situations, have participated in its organization and the preparations, including builders, instructors, sportsmen, technicians, administrative employees and all, must receive our recognition for their great effort. [applause]

As we explained on 18 July, a truly nationwide fever for camping has been observed, it being an excellent, large-scale and economic answer to our people's need for recreation in their spare time. It is an example, among many others, of what we can do despite our material limitations.

Last year in Tuna, on 26 July, we explained the difficult situation created in the country with the dengue epidemic introduced in our country by the criminal hands of imperialism. We were determined to win the battle against the epidemic and the results were not long in coming, although we have not yet totally eradicated the mosquito. On 9 June 1981 we started the program to eliminate the dengue epidemic and the eradication of the aedes Aegypti mosquito. On 26 July 1981, there were 279,682 reported cases, having reached the highest figure for one day on 6 July when 11,721 cases were reported. Less than 3 months later, however, on 10 October 1981, the last case of dengue was registered at Contramaestre, Santiago de Cuba. No case has been reported since. The epidemic was eradicated, leaving a toll of 344,203 cases and the irreparable loss of 158 lives.

Having attained the first objective, our efforts were simultaneously directed at the eradication of the mosquito carrier of this disease. Already five cycles of treatment, verification and destruction of aedes breeding areas in all houses and establishments of the country have been completed. On the fifth cycle, now underway, we have found 301 breeding areas, which actually represent a contamination index of 0.02 percent. The Isle of Youth is free of this mosquito. This contamination index rids us of the menace of any epidemic of the diseases transmitted by tha aedes Aegypti.

Presently, serotypes one and four of the dengue virus are circulating in Latin America and the Caribbean. In order to effectively face the fight against the vectors, we have a total of 9,285 qualified workers, of whom 6,450 are completely dedicated to the eradication program of tha aedes Aegypti. A true army of health has been created, trained and dedicated to this program, in which the participation of women has an important role. [applause]

In less than a year the majority of the nation's municipalities have created vector-control centers which have been fully equipped to carry out their work effectively.

In the latter part of 1981 an intense campaign was conducted against rodents. The contamination index at the time was 77 percent. At the end of the campaign, that index had dropped to 13 percent. An estimated 60 million rodents were eliminated.

Permanent compliance with hygienic measures, together with these control actions, will reduce the rodent population to limits harmless to the people's health and economy.

During the months of May and June of the present year we carried out the hygienic sanitation national campaign with the participation of the people's government, state entities, mass organizations and the people in general. This work was a most valuable element in the fight against all types of vectors and in the task of community hygiene, due to the increase in these activities at certain times of the year after the sugar harvest and other agricultural activity cycles, with the support of transportation resources.

The Public Health Ministry and the health organizations of the people's government must increase their demands that all state organizations and the population in general eliminate the existing sanitary deficiencies which may favor the procreation of vectors and the spread of diseases. The state entities must strictly supervise compliance with the sanitary regulations and the mass organizations must cooperate for the successful compliance with such purposes in order to achieve higher health levels.

Despite the dengue epidemic, which cost so many lives, and in which we invested huge economic resources and human efforts, our health statistics showed marked improvement as compared to previous years. The infant mortality rate dropped from 19.6 percent in 1980 to 18.3 in 1981 and life expectancy at birth rose to 63 years.

Since July of last year, work has been underway on the construction of 31 intensive-care pediatric wards with a total capacity of 230 beds. At present 21 of them have been completed, 5 are under construction and 5 are in the planning stage. The cost of the equipment purchased for these intensive-care wards has been $7.8 million, of which $4 million was for medical equipment, expendable materials and repair parts and $3.8 million was for electrical generators, air conditioning and other special material.

In addition to the intensive-care projects, a program for the expansion and improvement of the country's 26 pediatric hospitals and of 7 general hospitals that offer pediatric services is being developed.

This program includes the construction of 13 pediatric polyclinics in various provinces as well as the expansion and remodeling of outpatient areas, nursing stations, hospital wards, operating rooms, kitchens, dining rooms and other hospital services. These investments will increase present available space by over 700 beds, in addition to the 630 intensive care beds, and will also guarantee more comfort for our children.

Plans for four pediatric hospitals were also prepared: Marianao, Sancti Espiritus, Ciego de Avila and Bayamo. Construction of the first will begin in the last quarter of this year, and the others in 1983. [applause]

Work is underway to create eight nephrology units, which will be equipped with equipment for dialysis, artificial kidneys, in pediatric hospitals in Havana city, Villa Clara, Camaguey, Santiago de Cuba and Manzanillo. Most of the equipment is already in the country and at present training courses are being given to the medical, technical and nursing personnel selected for these services. The first course has already been completed.

Construction will begin this year on a module for the nephrology institute attached to the (Joaquin Albaran) hospital, which will permit greater development of specialties and an expansion of services for treating adult patients with chronic diseases in some provinces.

At present, only nine hospitals offer ultrasound diagnostic services, six of them in Havana city. A program has been prepared to extend this service to 60 hospitals this year, including 23 clinical-surgical hospitals, 17 gynecological-obstetric hospitals, 15 municipal general hospitals, 2 institutes and 3 pediatric hospitals. The total cost of equipment, expendable material and repair parts was $1.8 million. Some of this equipment has already arrived in the country.

Recently, the first 6-month course for a select group of radiologists from all the provinces was completed. They will be responsible for initiating this program. In the past 12 months, from 26 July 1981 to the present, a total of 271 health projects were completed in the country, of which 135 were new. In addition to the intensive-care pediatric wards and other projects in children's hospitals, we can point to the following: 2 hospitals, San Cristobal and Puerto Padre; 13 polyclinics, 8 dentistry clinics, 7 homes for the aged, 4 homes for the handicapped, 3 health polyclinics, 1 blood bank, 2 medium-term therapy wards, 69 vector units, 2 oncology units, 2 nursing schools and 2 pharmacies. In addition, we carried out 126 expansions, remodeling projects and improvement of other health units.

Aside from the resources allocated by the nation's budget for public health investments, it was decided that this year priority would be given to a number of projects that were needed to improve the quality of both medical teaching and medical care.

To this end, the additional figure of 19,524,000 pesos of the state's reserves were assigned to be used basically for the construction of medical schools, classrooms, hsopitals, polyclinics and research institutes. A total of 3,807 preuniversity students with average grades of 90 or more were selected to be assigned, along with 173 Public Health Ministry, MINSAP, workers with the same average as well as over 200 youths detached from the Revolutionary Armed Forces under Order No 20, who are presently studying in the Republic of Panama School, to form the first contingent of the Carlos J. Finlay Medical Sciences Detachment of over 4,000 students, who will begin medical studies in September. [applause]

These students have passed through a strict selection process in which their political and educational qualifications were assessed. In addition they meet the important requirement of having a vocation for medicine and dentistry.

Special, priority attention has begun to be given to one of the foremost and most beautiful works of the revolution in the area of public health: rural medicine. Health is one of the most important social areas in the rural sectors and this year a great many of the 117 rural and local hospitals have been modernized. They serve a basically rural population of 2 million inhabitants.

These hospital centers have a total of 3,382 beds for their patients and they will be converted into teaching hospitals, which will greatly improve their scientific level and their services. In addition to improving their structure, we will give these hospitals X-ray, laboratory and transportation equipment, generators and other resources needed in order to transform them so that they can give optimum service.

In addition, 35 municipal and intermunicipal hospitals will also become teaching hospitals, which will improve their scientific level and their services. A group of doctors will be sent to these hospitals in September to improve their level of services. A total of 272 interns will be sent to rural hospitals and 342 will be sent to municipal hospitals. These interns will complete their final year of study in these hospitals and will later remain there for 3 years as doctors.

Many problems have been affecting the care of our people in optical centers in the past few months. After a careful ananlysis at these units, it was demonstrated that the main problems were caused by the shortage of lenses and fitters, difficulties in the production of lenses that affect their quality, antiquated equipment or a lack of such equipment at optical centers and workshops, a deficient ability to produce finished lenses and the fact that optical glass is not produced in the country.

All these factors and some others contributed to delaying delivery dates, with the resultant annoyance and irritation to the population, in addition to the detrimental effects on work and study.

To provide a definitive solution to this problem, $6,500 [figure as heard] has been allocated for the purchase of lenses and frames, modernization of optical centers and workshops, purchase of material, metal and raw material for the production of frames, as well as other measures such as studying the feasibility of producing optical glass in this country. Within a few months products of this kind will begin to be received in the country, whereupon the situation will begin to improve.

We currently have 2,551 health workers abroad. Of this figure, 1,319 are doctors spread throughout 26 countries. Several days ago 52 doctors graduated in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. These are the first Yemeni doctors to graduate in their very own school of medicine; 500 more students are currently enrolled there. In the past 7 years, a total of 101 Cuban professors of medicine have passed through this Yemeni school of medicine; 22 of them are currently there. Through this cooperation the success of this idea has been achieved. It will suffice to say that when the revolution began in that country there were only 8 Yemeni doctors as an inheritance from British colonialism.

This enormous effort in the health sector that we have been referring to shows how our people and our workers have [Castro corrects himself] of health, have fulfilled the promise of converting the dengue epidemic into a victory for the revolution. [applause]

However, we have not worked arduously only in the economic field, in the field of services and in social development. As you are all aware, our country has recently had to make an extraordinary effort in the field of defense. In the past 18 months we enrolled, trained and armed more than 500,000 citizens, male and female, who now belong to the territorial militia troops. [applause]

It was necessary to build many installations of all types for training purposes, to store the weapons and for the general development of this activity. The people's governments contributed to this effort in an outstanding manner, building dozens upon dozens of these installations in only a matter of months. At the Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces an extraordinary task was also accomplished, training these militia troops and at the same time preparing tens of thousands of cadres to direct these troops. The regular troops have had to make an equally large effort to learn the new combat techniques. And this is not all. It has also been necessary to invest effort and resources into strengthening and protecting both the technique and the personnel.

Recently tens of thousands of men and thousands of pieces of equipment participated in this task, in this sacred need, this sacred duty to make whatever efforts are necessary to strengthen the country's defense at a time when the imperialists have become more arrogant and aggressive.

I believe that these figures -- perhaps a bit long and tiresome, but nevertheless interesting since they reflect our people's work in the past year and in the past few months -- show how much attention, how much effort, has been devoted to our basic problems, and even how much progress [has been made]. But we must not deceive ourselves. We have difficulties and will continue to have difficulties in the next few years. And our difficulties can be even greater. We must be very aware, and on a day like today it is worthwhile to be very aware, of the problems that the world, and our country as well, is experiencing.

The capitalist world is experiencing a profound economic crisis, perhaps the greatest in its history. This crisis is affecting the underdeveloped world in particular, but it is also affecting the socialist countries. The capitalist sugar market, for example -- and this one interests us -- is currently experiencing one of the worst crises in its history. That crisis, to a great extent, is part of the broadest crisis currently affecting all of the basic products exported by the underdeveloped countries, such as foodstuffs and agricultural and mineral raw materials, and it is considered the most serious since World War II.

The crisis is affecting practically all the basic products exported by the underdeveloped non-oil producing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. We can even add that the oil-exporting countries, which in recent years had an increase in income unparalleled in history, are having problems. Tropical foodstuffs and beverages represent approximately 54 percent of the total value of the basic exports of the underdeveloped countries. The two main products in the group are coffee and sugar. Coffee is the most important basic product in the exports of: Brazil, 22 percent of total exports; Colombia, 62 percent; El Salvador, 63 percent; Guatemala, 44 percent; Uganda, 93 percent; Ethiopia, 75 percent; Tanzania, 41 percent; Madagascar, 48 percent; Burundi, 98 percent; Rwanda, 72 percent; and so forth.

Coffee had a considerable price increase in 1975; in 1977 it reached an average price of $2.56 per pound, based on a combination of the prices for the different varieties of coffee. Then the price began to drop; the average price during the first 4 months of the current year was $1.28.

Sugar is Cuba's most important export product, but it is just as important for Brazil, the Philippines, the Dominican Republic, Thailand, India and others. The behavior of sugar prices on the so-called world market, the so-called world free market, has been one of the worst of all the staples. During the past 22 years, sugar has only maintained an average annual price of between 25 and 30 cents per pound for 2 years: 1974 and 1980; of between 20 and 25 cents per pound only 1 year, 1975; of between 15 and 20 cents only 1 year, 1981; and between 10 and 15 cents only 1 year, 1976.

However, the price of sugar has been fluctuating between $0.05 and $0.10 for 7 years and between $0.01 and $0.04 for 10 years. We have to remember that $0.07 20 years ago is not the same as $0.07 today. We could say that the current price of sugar, if we compare it to 1959 -- if we compare the price of the products that the country imports -- must be somewhere around $0.01 or $0.15. This is comparing 1959 prices and today's price. The monthly average price that sugar had in October 1980 was $0.40 cents per pound and then, just like the rest of the basic products -- yet even faster than any other products -- the price of sugar began to drop until it settled at less than $0.12 per pound as an average price for January through April of this year and lately has dropped to less than $0.08.

The agricultural raw materials, among which we find cotton, rubber, lumber and cacao, represent approximately 18 percent of the total value of the exports of the underdeveloped countries that find themselves equally affected by the crisis. Cotton, for example, is important for the Sudan and Egypt and also for Nicaragua -- 25 percent of their exports -- and for some of the poorer African countries such as Chad, 83 percent of their exports; Mali, 46 percent, and Upper Volta, reached its maximum price in September 1980 when the most common variety was priced at $1.06 per pound. Later, as in the other cases, the price of cotton was $0.72 per pound.

Rubber, lumber and cacao -- the latter an important product for several African countries and also important for several Latin American countries -- have also experienced substantial price drops.

Minerals and metals represent approximately 20 percent of the exports of basic products for the underdeveloped world. Worthy of mention are copper -- important in the economy of several countries and a mineral ore on which Liberia and Mauritius depend -- aluminum, pewter and others. All these products have dropped in price.

There are other products not as important in the world market and in underdeveloped countries' export products, but important for some of these countries as is the case of vegetable oils and oilseeds, that are also experiencing this critical situation.

On the other hand, this drop in price of the basic products, even if we were to consider it only in nominal terms, was calculated by the experts as having cost the underdeveloped countries, during 1981, between $8 and $10 billion in losses from export income. However, the volume of exports has also been decreasing. Therefore, the combined actions of decrease in prices and the reduction in volume of exports is aggravating one of the worst crisis, if not the worst crisis, experienced in the history of underdeveloped countries. There are other aggravating factors. As is well known, for these countries imports from capitalist developed countries keep increasing. The amount of foreign debt servicing continues to increase, and there continues to be an increasing drain which cancels the profits and other benefits obtained from private foreign investment. At the same time, paradoxically, when they are most needed, the trade loans to these countries are cut, in some cases the loans from the IMF are reduced to zero and the level of the so-called official aid for development is greatly reduced. On top of all this and to complicate matters more, interest rates are kept high under U.S. pressure. This does not only make economic recovery difficult for the capitalist developed countries but in the case of the underdeveloped makes servicing of the foreign debt more unbearable. For these reasons the economic and financial situation of the underdeveloped countries is currently considered, among authoritative international groups, desperate.

In these countries the crisis in the basic products, complicated by the aggravating factors described above, is having repercussions in ever lower and sometimes even negative rates of growth, reductions in investments and consumption, increased inflation, increases in the already traditionally very high levels of unemployment and a dramatic deterioration of the living conditions of the peoples.

On the other hand, the prespects cannot be more somber. The capitalistic crisis shows no signs of easing up. Here is some data: The growth rate of the industrialized countries of the OECD is not expected to exceed 0.5 percent in 1982. Another fact: It is being forecast that the inflation rate will vary from 8 to 10 percent. Yet another fact: It is being forecast that unemployment will reach 8.5 percent of the work force in 1983, that is, some 30 million unemployed.

In addition the majority of the governments of those developed capitalist countries are only prepared to face the crisis with the interest of preserving the profits of the monopolies while they are promoting monetary and fiscal policies and applying measures which throw all theweight of that crisis on the workers through unemployment and decreased wages as well as on the underdeveloped countries through protectionism in the form of subsidies, import quotas and tariff and other barriers.

Lately, under U.S. leadership, some of these countries have even hardened their positions on the just demands of the underdeveloped countries, particularly concerning basic products and financing for development, a policy which can only serve to further deepen the crisis, and thereby that of the whole world economy. These are realities which our people must know and think about. [applause]

However, we must not curse sugar because sugar constitutes the principal item of our trade with the socialist countries, and at good prices. In addition, in our agreements with them, we are protected against an increase in the prices of their exports. It is important for the people to know that 80 percent of our trade is with the socialist countries and 20 percent with the Western countries.

We only have to acquire 20 percent in hard currency. However, this 20 percent is very important. It has a specific weight greater than 20. We use hard currency to import medicines, food, raw materials for feed, raw materials for industry and, in construction, spares, some equipment and so forth. The difficulties we meet are due to the low prices for sugar and other export products, imperialist pressure to limit our credits, very high interest rates, high prices on import products, marketing difficulties and so forth.

On the other side is our sacred obligation to comply with our international financial commitments.

Naturally, we will give priority to medicines and food. However, we might have a shortage of Western raw materials in industry and construction. In some cases it could become necessary to decrease working hours or even days, although affecting the income of the workers as little as possible. We might find it necessary to decrease working hours or days in some factories, in some cases. In this situation the capitalists fire thousands and even millions of workers. We cannot adopt such an example.

For example, in England they now have 3.2 million unemployed. The Western industrialized countries are going to have an estimated 30 million unemployed. We cannot accept such a policy because what we have must be shared. The idea of the party is that under such circumstances the workers should be affected as little as possible.

This applies to some activities. For example, this will not happen in sugar, in sugar harvesting and in many other things . And we are going to have to work more. There are some tasks for which there is a labor shortage. We have to work more. In construction, as we know, this year the workday was decreased to 10 hours, but not on all projects. What I mean is that, more than a policy of unemployment, it is a policy of decreasing work, or decreasing days. And when we can, we fill up again. In construction, when we again have raw materials and resources, we will return to 10 hours, as it was before. The workers who labored on military construction projects for several months had to work 14, 15, 16 hours when the circumstances required and it is justified.

It could be that in the near future our overall economy will grow little or not at all. We should not be afraid; we should not even fear negative browth if export products increase. We continue to increase in sugar production and in other export products. It could be that construction may decrease a lot; it could decrease some. We could have the case that without overall growth, we might have growth in the most basic areas, which are the export products. This implies sacrifice.

Let us take the example of coffee. In the last harvest production increased. This year there will be an estimated increase of some 100,000 quintals. Unfortunately, however, this does not mean that we are going to have lots of coffee and distribute it. And it is one of the products which the population is demanding most. We have been affected and the distribution of coffee has been affected by the measures adopted last year. However, we have no alternative and if we manage to have increases, we have to export them.

It is necessary for the people to understand. We do not need very large houses. There is still demand for cement, construction steel and as I was reading to you, we have become part exporters of construction steel, exporters of cement. Naturally, the principal limiting factor in construction for us lumber, the primary limiting factor. However, the population still needs quantities of construction steel and cement. Nevertheless, we have to export these products.

As I said last October at the closing of the defense committees congress, there is no solution in sight for the present economic problems of the world; no one has the answer. The foreign debt of the underdeveloped countries is increasing and already exceed $500 billion and it is rising like foam while interest rises with it. There is no solution for now; it cannot be seen. The world political situation, moreover, is worsening because of imperialist aggressiveness. We are seeing this and reading about it daily: The increasing degree of imperialist aggressiveness, not only in the threats against our country, but in their actions everywhere. For example, there is the aggression in Lebanon: the aggression, the invasion of Lebanon, the attempt to wipe out the Palestinians and the progressive forces of Lebanon. Using the Zionists, the imperialists have carried out a shameful aggression, in the Middle East, against the Palestinians, the Lebanese and the Syrians. They have killed tens of thousands of people and they are trying to carry out veritable genocide.

In southern Africa, we have the constant South African attacks and threats against Angola. In Mozambique, there is the fact that imperialism, through South Africa, has introduced thousands of mercenaries to organize the counterrevolution and destibilize the country, making life impossible

In the Malvinas, we saw how the imperialists imposed their policy through their superior military forces and the use of advanced technology. In Central America, there has been increasing support for the genocidal government of El Salvador, increased arms shipments and the use of the Honduran Army against the patriotic forces, which the Salvadoran forces have been unable to defeat. In Nicaragua, we see how imperialism is openly organizing the counterrevolution, the destabilization campaign, for which it uses Honduran territory, where thousands of former Somozaist Guardsmen and other mercenaries have been organized and supplied with equipment to carry out invasions of Nicaraguan territory in increasing numbers.

In the Sahara, we see how imperialism supports the Moroccan Government and offers sophisticated weapons for it to fight the patriots and prevent the independence of those heroic people.

This imperialist adventure is noticeable everywhere: in Europe, with the attempt to deploy 1,572 medium-range missiles which could reach Soviet territory in a matter of minutes; in the economic blockades; in the plans to sabotage the development of trade relations between the socialist camp and Western Europe, which has caused no few conflicts between the United States and its own European allies; in the attempt to boycott the agreement for the provision of natural gas from the USSR and Western Europe. In an era in which it is so important and so decisive for countries to obtain additional energy resources, it goes to unprecedented extremes, with the arrogance of that administration, such as forbidding U.S. companies based in Europe to build machinery for that gas pipeline, which is equivalent to wiping out the sovereignty of those countries with the stroke of a pen, because it is the workers of France, of the FRG or the British or Italian workers who are involved in the construction of the machinery for the gas pipeline, and those are the countries that will receive a secure supply of energy to meet a portion of their needs.

With the most diverse pretexts -- that this establishes a dependence on the USSR; that this will give the Soviets resources to carry out an arms race, etc. -- they sabotage all these plans with a very aggressive policy.

Imperialist arrogance and aggressiveness are manifested in many areas, even to the point of causing harm to U.S. allies, as is the case of the high interest rates. The United States has established, through certain mechanisms, extremely high interest rates on loans, which are an obstacle to the world economy's chances of recovery.

The absurd ideas of this imperialist administration in the area of foreign policy and in the economic area are causing serious problems. Moreover, at a time when there is talk about the possibility of 30 million unemployed, how is it possible to be boycotting -- 30 million unemployed in industrialized countries -- the possibilities of production and of employment of the workers of those countries?

Thus, it is possible to see more clearly than ever the ideas of world dominion and the role of gendarme being played by Yankee imperialism. The arms race worsens the economic crisis by obliging peoples to spend much more money on defense. The United States has established strastospheric budgets for the production of weapons, despite having a budget deficit that is calculated to be over 100 billion by next year. Whenever sane, sensible people analyze all facets of this policy, they find it truly absurd.

Our country must prepare to live in this situation: more internal effort, more saving, more efficiency. We must fulfill our international duties in the struggle for peace, independence, freedom and the security of peoples. The imperialists will not make us back away from our duties. They have not achieved this and they never will. [applause]

Now there is talk about the independence of Namibia. The South African troops are illegally occupying that country. In order to resolve the issue of Namibian independence, the South Africans and the Yankee imperialists in close association -- that is not the position of other European countries that are in the contact group -- want to impose the condition that there must be a simultaneous withdrawal of the South African troops from Namibia and those of Cuba from Angola.

The Angolan Government is completely opposed to this, with absolute reason. The role of the South African troops in Namibia is that of illegal occupants and aggressors. The role of the Cuban forces in Angola is that of allies of Angola, of fighters defending Angolan independence and security. [applause]

We Angolans and Cubans have made agreements to gradually withdraw the Cuban troops from Angola within a period of time agreed upon by the two governments [applause] when all the South African troops have withdrawn from Namibia to the other side of the Orange River, when there is no threat of foreign invasion to Angola, when there is an end to all imperialist aid to the puppet organizations: the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, UNITA, Comira, and the Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave, FLEC. [applause]

Therefore, we are going to withdraw gradually, within the time frame upon which the two governments agree. Granted, we are very far away from Angola. Even if the South Africans were to withdraw from Namibia they could reach the Angolan border in a matter of hours. Then they organize puppet organizations as they are doing there, and in Mozambique, and as they would like to do in Nicaragua now, thousands of mercenaries to destabilize the country. So foreign support for the puppet organizations also has to cease. This is the firm position of the Angolan Government, and we agree with the Angolan Government's position. [applause]

The imperialists have threatened to use the Angolan mercenaries to attack. To begin, they will stage small-scale attacks and will not strike deep into Angola. We warn them that if they stage attacks deep into the Republic of Angola and reach our lines, we are going to fight very steadfastly against the fascist, racist South African mercenaries. [lengthy applause]

We have already fought once against the fascist and racist South Africans, and they are aware of the tenacity, courage and firmness of our fighters, so it would be best for the imperialists and their henchmen not to go around promoting adventures of this type. Let them give up their threats, because they are not going to intimidate us with threats. [applause]

A reasonable, just solution must be sought: Our country has a constructive stand, and would not place obstacles in the way of reasonable or just solution. But it has to be based on the 4 February 1982 statement by the Cuban and Angolan Governments. We understand that one has to be firm. The history of Cuba has shown us that firmness has to be principle number one in the face of imperialist threats. However, imperialist aggressions and adventures are in vogue everywhere. Let us see what is going to happen.

Therefore, we must not only fulfill the principle of making a greater internal effort, of creating more savings and more efficiency; we must also fulfill our internationalist duties. We are not in favor of war, we are in favor of peace. We are in favor of solutions. We understand only too well the consequences [applause] that might befall the world as a result of a war, and the danger does in fact exist. We are in favor of solutions. We have said so regarding the world's trouble spots: solutions for the Iran-Iraq war, solutions for the Middle East, solutions for Central America, for Angola, for South Africa. Therefore, our attitude is not one of promoting conflicts. Nevertheless, we are not going to back down one single inch in the face of the imperialist threats of aggression; not one single inch. [applause]

We must be prepared in our own country to defend ourselves from any imperialist aggression against our fatherland. Perhaps they believed that by threatening us they were going to pressure us into giving up our support for Angola or Ethiopia. What has been proven instead is that as a result of those threats today we have much more force in our own country [applause] than we had before the threats began, and we maintain our international support and fulfill our internationalist duties.

I believe that the Palestinian example deserves to be taken into account. The Palestinians, attacked by forces which are far superior, are under siege in Beirut, in the western half of Beirut. But they maintained a firm position. They were demanding that the Palestinians surrender, but the Palestinians refused to surrender. Neither the Palestinians nor the progressive Lebanese forces surrendered, they were willing to fight and to die. They placed imperialism in a position where it would have had to carry out an operation that would have been monstruous genocide, with a very high political cost. Carrying out that operation would also have taken a very large toll of human life. The firmness of the Palestinians has played a very important role in the survival of the Palestinians.

The danger has not yet passed completely but they have survived. World public opinion is increasingly leaning in their favor, while repudiation of that criminal aggression is on the rise. The firmness and the heroism of the Palestinians and the progressive Lebanese have produced a turnabout in that situation, along with international solidarity which has been a great souce of encouragement and an incentive for the fighters. They were demanding that the Palestinians surrender, and the Palestinians replied that they would rather die than surrender. [applause]

The imperialists then found that they had a hard bone to chew in west Beirut. This is a lesson that must be kept in mind. This example has been given by many other peoples. The Vietnamese people gave this example in the face of imperialist aggression, to cite one case. This example was also given by the Saharans, those extraordinary and courageous fighters, after their country was invaded by foreign forces. This shows that when there is firmness, heroism, and resistance, then the imperialists and their aggressive spirit have a limit.

When we attacked the garrisons of Santiago and Bayamo 29 years ago we did not even imagine what the problems of today, the ones we have been talking about, would be like. But the spirit is the same, and it has been strengthened. [applause] With the awareness and fighting experience of our entire people, our noble and courageous people, we will face any difficulties and we will overcome them. [applause]

This promise is the best tribute that we can pay to our heroes and martyrs from those of La Majagua, the fire of Bayamo, our 10-year war, the death of Marti at Dos Rios, the invasion of Maceo and Maximo Gomex in 1895, the fights of '33, the Moncada, Bayamo and Granma, the Sierra and El Llano, Escambray and Giron, the unique heroism of Che in Bolivia [applause], the internationalist missions in Angola and Ethiopia, until today, and so it will be tomorrow and always. Fatherland or death, we will win.[applause]

BARBADOS

TOM ADAMS MEETS WITH BAHAMAS' PINDLING

FL261319 Bridgetown CANA in English 2200 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Excerpt] Bridgetown, Barbados, July 24, CANA -- Bahamas Prime Minister Lynden Pindling stopped off in Barbados today and held impromptu talks with his local counterpart, Tom Adams on the proposed Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) and regional representation on the directorate of the World Bank.

In a five minute briefing afterward at government headquarters here Mr Adams disclosed that Barbadian economist Dr George Reid would succeed the Bahamian now representing the region at the bank.

But the two leaders gave no details of their informal discussions on the CBI - a multilateral trade and aid scheme being prepared for poor states in the region.

Mr Pindling, whose Progressive Liberal Party (PLP) swept back to power in the Bahamas last general elections on June 10, winning 32 of the 43 House of Assembly seats, is in the eastern Caribbean as part of a 14-day holiday cruise through the region.

ST KITTS - NEVIS

SIMMONDS ON PROPOSED INDEPENDENCE, ELECTIONS

FL261920 Bridgetown CANA in English 1856 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Basseterre, St Kitts, July 26, CANA -- St Kitts-Nevis premier, Dr Kennedy Simmonds, today said that his government would immediately begin circulating for public comment a white paper on proposed independence for the British associated state.

The document will be the basis for the twin-island state's moving into independence shortly, he said.

The public will have eight weeks to study it.

The premier made the disclosure at the opening of a meeting of the St Kitts-Nevis legislature.

Premier Simmonds also said his government planned to increase the number of elected members from nine to ten.

The additional seat will be for Nevis, which now has two seats.

When the islands become independent, they will be known as the federation of St Christopher, and Nevis, the premier said.

A national assembly will take over from the Nevis local council.

Dr Simmonds said that unless there was any reason for urgency, the next general elections in the islands would be due on March 14, 1985, when the voting age will be 18 years and over.

URUGUAY

RIGHT TO STRIKE LAW MAY BE IMPLEMENTED

PY261938 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Excerpt] The interior minister, Dr Carlos Maeso [as heard], has stated that his ministry is studying a law which contemplates the right to hold strikes. However, he did not reveal the date this law will be implemented.

Maeso stated that the law might be implemented in the country this year.